

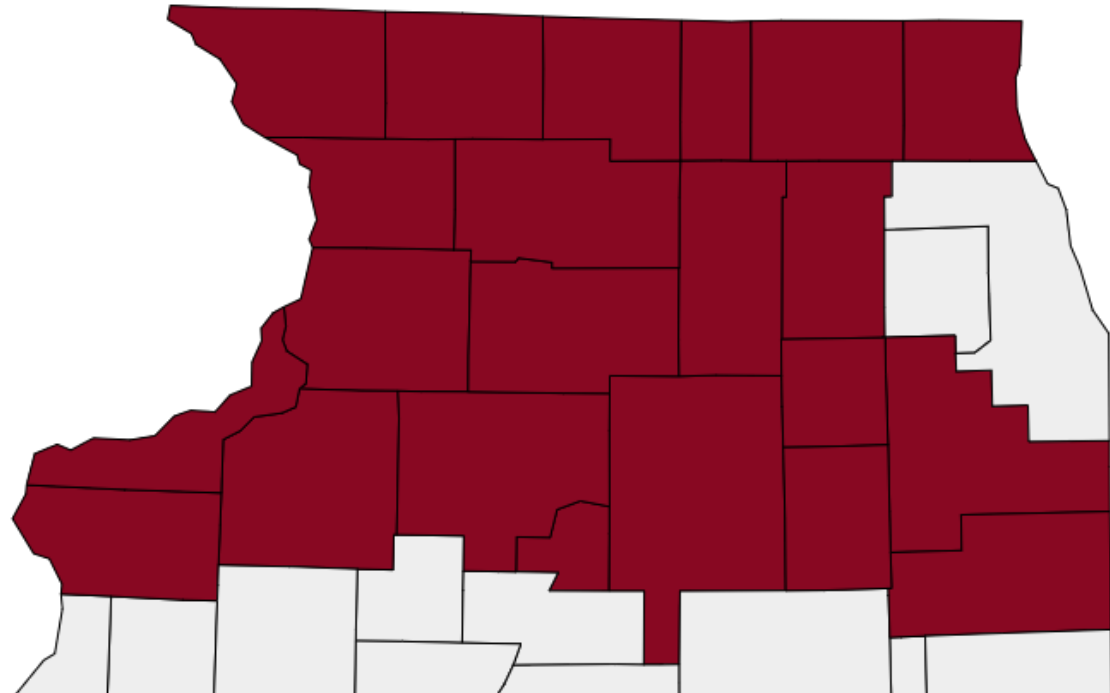


Member Update

May 2025

Welcome

- ☐ Name
- ☐ Library
- ☐ What are you reading /
listening / watching right
now?



Agenda

- ☐ Introductions and Welcome
- ☐ Membership Update
- ☐ PrairieCat System and Services
- ☐ IMLS
- ☐ Member Events
- ☐ Mobile App
- ☐ Vega
- ☐ Questions and Comments
- ☐ Member Sharing

Membership Update | Upgrading

- **Mills & Petrie Memorial Library and Gymnasium | Lee County**
 - Upgrading from Union List to Basic Online
 - **Project Schedule: Go Live on May 19**
 - Population Served: approximately 967
 - Registered Cardholders: approximately 465
 - Annual Circulation: approximately 4,800 items
 - Items: approximately 17,000
 - Sierra Code: MI
 - RAILS Delivery Code: MPMY-12



Circulation Features Available

Repeated Bills Feature:

Can send 2 additional bills, each 30 days apart, after replacement bill sent

Text is the same as the current replacement bill

3-Day Hold Pickup Feature:

Intended for special items only that are high turnover, such as hotspots

Allows for items to remain on the holdshelf for only 3 business days, in contrast to the standard 6 business days

To enable either feature for your library, submit a help desk ticket

Systems Update

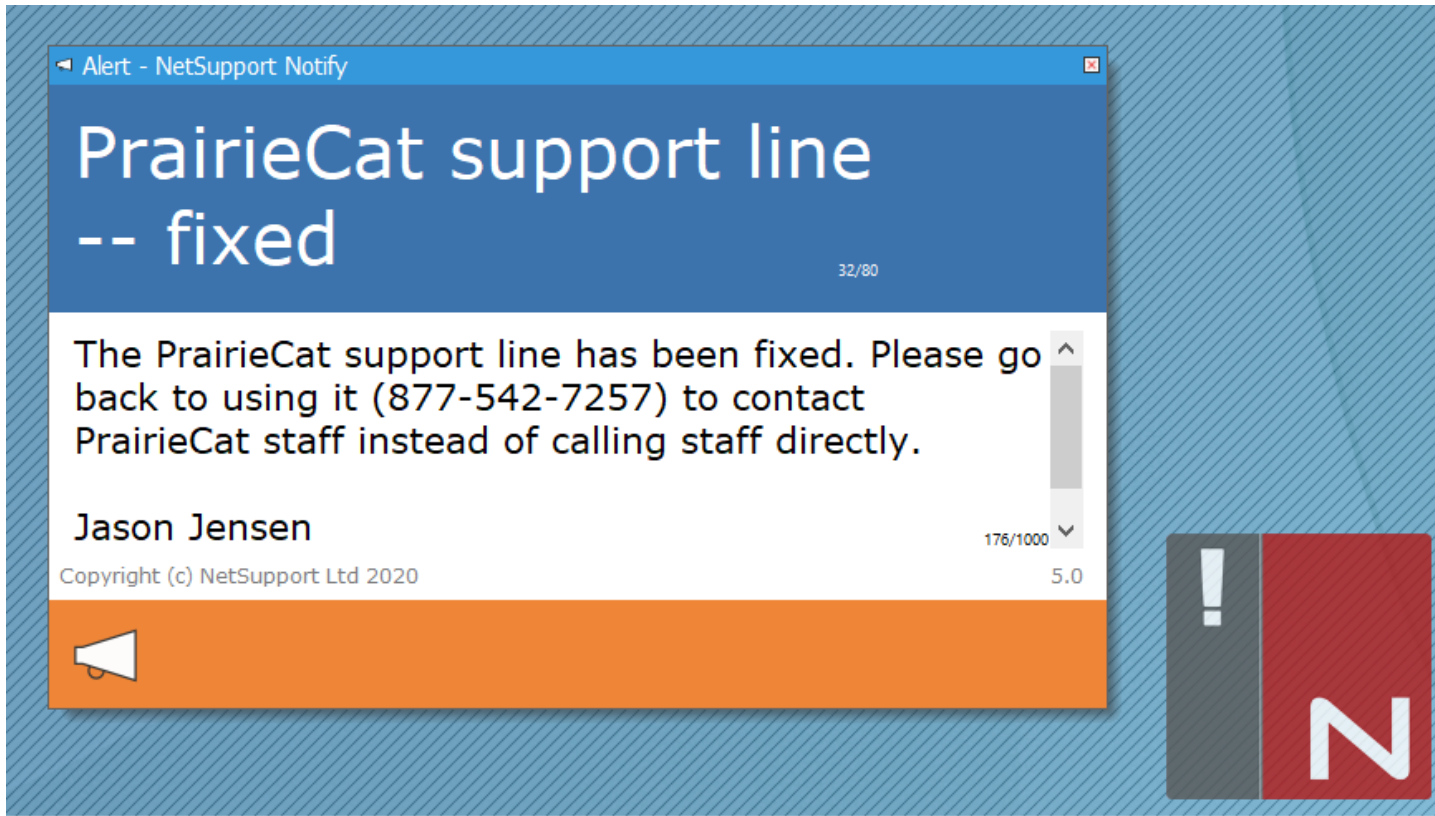
- ❑ Assisting with implementation of the new mobile app
- ❑ Research for the PrairieCat staff laptop upgrades next year
- ❑ Moving PrairieCat to being fully hosted

Net Support Notify

Verify that NSN is installed on all workstations at your library.

The installation instructions and download for NSN are available under Software Downloads.

If you have questions about the instructions or installation, please submit a Help Desk ticket specifying Net Support Notify as the Topic.





Cataloging Services

Cataloging Support for Libraries Services Provided by:

PrairieCat

Cataloging Maintenance Center (CMC)

World Language Cataloging Services (RAILS)

PrairieCat Cataloging Services

Included for PrairieCat members:

Importing from WorldCat OCLC bibliographic records for material not found in the PrairieCat database.

- Notepad file to ocmlist
- 1 file per day per library
- Max 25 files per file

PrairieCat Cataloging Services

Included for PrairieCat members:

Enhancements or updates to lower-level cataloged title records.

- Request through *Enhance/Upgrade Cataloging Request* form

PrairieCat Cataloging Services

Included for PrairieCat members:

Original & copy cataloging.

- Request though *Original Cataloging Request Form*

PrairieCat Cataloging Services

Included for PrairieCat members:

Record maintenance, correction & cleanup.

- Duplicate records: Submit a *Duplicate Record Merge Request* form
- Typos, incorrect material types, and similar issues: Submit a *Record Correction* form
- General cataloging questions or concerns: Submit a *Help Desk* ticket

Cataloging Maintenance Center (CMC)

Statewide cataloging (free to Illinois libraries):

- Operated by the Illinois Heartland Library System & supported by the Illinois State Library.

Cataloging Maintenance Center (CMC)

Statewide cataloging (free to Illinois libraries):

- Operated by the Illinois Heartland Library System
- Will catalog for free:
 - Genealogy about a person or a family
 - Local history
 - Memoirs about Illinois or written by an Illinois author
 - Topics associated with neighboring states, such as Iowa for the Quad city libraries
 - Special collections, such as (but not limited to): community cookbooks, Illinois government documents, fictional or nonfictional works by a local author.

World Language Cataloging Service (RAILS) (Reaching Across Illinois Library System)

Statewide cataloging support program for Illinois library system members.

- Operated by the Reaching Across Illinois Library System

World Language Cataloging Service (RAILS) (Reaching Across Illinois Library System)

Statewide cataloging support program for Illinois library system members.

- Operated by the Reaching Across Illinois Library System
- Supplemental cataloging for original cataloging or world language cataloging for eligible languages and formats.

Contact information

- <https://support.prairiecat.info/documentation/policies-procedures-documentation-technical-services>
- <https://support.prairiecat.info/forms>
- <https://support.prairiecat.info/help>



IMLS Changes and Impacts

[Visit the RAILS Pulse Page on IMLS Advocacy for details and the most recent updates.](#)

Timeline

- **May 1** - A judge [temporarily blocked](#) the Trump administration from further dismantling of IMLS. [Read the full ruling.](#)
- **April 11** - AISLE, CARLI, IHLS, ILA, and RAILS shared [a joint statement in response to changes at IMLS.](#)
- **April 7** - The American Library Association (ALA), along with the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), files a lawsuit [asking the court to block the dismantling of the IMLS.](#)
- **April 5** - [Illinois Attorney General Kwame Raoul joins a lawsuit](#) with 21 other states to stop President Trump from defunding IMLS and other federal agencies.
- **April 3** - Several states including California, Connecticut, and Washington, received written notifications from IMLS Acting Director Keith Sonderling that their IMLS grants were cancelled.
- **April 3** - A group of publishers sent a message to Acting Director Keith Sonderling [expressing concern over the turmoil at IMLS.](#)
- **April 3** - Members of the [IMLS Board sent a letter to Keith Sonderling](#), Acting Director of IMLS, asking for clarification about the recent decision to place the staff of IMLS on administrative leave.
- **April 2** - [Members of Congress wrote a letter](#) to express their concern over the proposed elimination of the IMLS.
- **March 31** - [ALA issued a statement](#) reacting to IMLS staff being placed on leave.
- **March 31** - All IMLS staff were placed on administrative leave and all grants and contracts were suspended.
- **March 28** - Illinois Secretary of State Alexi Giannoulias [sent a letter to all Illinois library staff](#) about the impact of IMLS funding cuts.
- **March 26** - A bipartisan group of Senators [sent a letter to Keith Sonderling](#), Acting Director of IMLS. The Senators are the lead authors of the Museum and Library Services Act (MLSA), which was signed into law by President Trump.
- **March 14** - Executive Order signed.

Summary of IMLS Changes and Impacts

Excerpt from April 11, 2025 Joint Statement on Changes at the Institute of Museum and Library Services from Illinois library agencies:

How does all of this affect Illinois? In Illinois, [federal funding to libraries is distributed by the Illinois State Library](#) through the [IMLS Grants to States program](#), with funding totaling \$5.7 million in FY 2024—the sixth-highest amount in the country. This funding supports resources, grants, public library programming, professional development, and operations for various types of libraries, with a focus on underserved areas.

Monies are also allocated to the Illinois Heartland Library System (IHLS) and the Reaching Across Illinois Library System (RAILS) under the System Area & Per Capita Grant Program. This includes funding that facilitates the delivery of books and library materials across Illinois through interlibrary loan services.

[See detailed allocation of funding here.](#)

Summary of IMLS Changes and Impacts

May 6, 2025 Excerpt from [RAILS News Post](#)

Illinois State Library (ISL) has directed the regional library systems (including RAILS) to submit plans at level funding for the upcoming fiscal year (FY 2026). This means ISL is planning for a FY 2026 financial year that looks a lot like FY 2025.

Congress will need to reauthorize the Museum and Library Services Act for the next federal financial year that funds the IMLS programs, inclusive of the Grants to States program. This means that continuing funding of the IMLS will require further congressional actions.

Summary of IMLS Changes and Impacts

How is PrairieCat funded?

Member Fees: PrairieCat is funded primarily through membership fees, which covers approximately 70-75% of costs. The Delegates Assembly annually reviews and votes on the PrairieCat budget and members fees.

RAILS Grant: PrairieCat also applies for an annual grant from RAILS to provide services and support to member libraries. The RAILS grant typically covers 25-30% of costs, with the remaining costs covered by membership fees.

How is RAILS funded?

Most of RAILS funding is provided from the Illinois State Library and the Illinois Secretary of State. However, the Illinois State Library receives roughly 10% of their total budget from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS).

Summary of IMLS Changes and Impacts

PrairieCat does not anticipate any direct or immediate funding impact from the changes at IMLS. However, we encourage libraries to continue to advocate for this important institution.

[RAILS IMLS Advocacy Page](#) | RAILS

[More Than a Building Campaign](#) | ILA

[Show Up for Our Libraries Campaign](#) | ALA

Member Events | Upcoming

New Director Welcome

Wednesday, June 25, 2025

10:00 – 11:00 am | [Online via Zoom](#)

All Upcoming Meetings

Posted on PrairieCat website

Open to all



Training | IPLAR Q&A

Got IPLAR questions? We can help! Drop in for an open Q&A. PrairieCat staff will be available during the sessions to assist with answering your questions about compiling your Sierra-specific statistics for the IPLAR. The sessions are via Zoom and the events are posted in L2 and on the [PrairieCat website](#).

[Please register in advance for your preferred Zoom session.](#)

Monday, June 9, 2025 10:00-11:00 AM

Monday, July 14, 2025 10:00-11:00 AM

Monday, August 11, 2025 10:00-11:00 AM

Member Events | PUG Day 2025



Now Accepting Program Proposals | [Submit](#)
30 and 60 minute sessions available

Registration and program announced in June

Friday, September 26, 2025
Bend XPO | East Moline, IL



Sneak Peek | PUG Day 2025

Innovation or Illusion: Navigating AI as a Library Professional

Atticus Garrison | Black Hawk College

NAMI: Mental Health in the Workplace

Stephanie Phares | NAMI Greater Mississippi Valley

Reader's Advisory for Children and Teens

Julie Jurgens | Lake Bluff Public Library

Collection Development for Children and Teens

Julie Jurgens | Lake Bluff Public Library

News

[Mailing Lists](#)

▸ [PrairieCat eNewsletter](#)

eNewsletter Archive

Read recent issues of the [PrairieCat eNewsletter](#).

Subscribe to PrairieCat eNewsletter

Email Address *

First Name *

Last Name *

Library Affiliation

Position

PrairieCat eNewsletter

[Sign up for the monthly eNewsletter](#)

From the website – [News > PrairieCat eNewsletter](#)

[eNewsletter Archive – View recent issues](#)

Member Forums Now Available

- ❑ Peer-to-peer discussions
- ❑ Library related topics
- ❑ Log in to view and post
- ❑ Can subscribe to topics
- ❑ Please share with staff

support.prairiecat.info/members/forums

Members

Member Directory

Membership Information

Committees & User Groups

Site Visit Request

► Member Forums

Member Forums

Forums are a place where PrairieCat members can discuss topics of interest within our consortium community. We encourage you to create forum topics for discussions and information sharing. Share your expertise and ask your fellow PrairieCat members for advice.

Forums are intended for peer-to-peer discussions around library service and PrairieCat related topics. Members must be logged in to view and post comments. Receive email notifications by clicking the Subscribe slider at the top of each forum page. Subscribe to a main forum category to be emailed when a new sub-topic is created. Subscribe to specific sub-topics to be notified of new comments.

To create a forum topic, select the appropriate category and select **Add a Forum Topic**.

Review the [Forum Policy](#) before participating.

Search

Apply

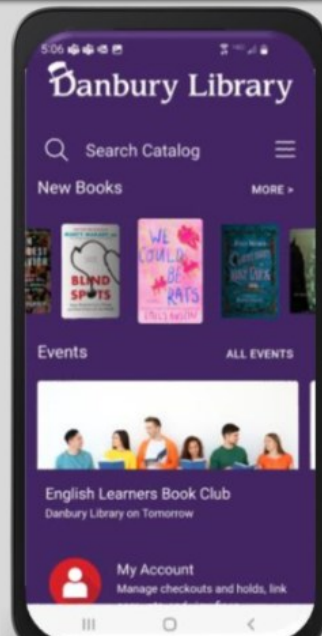
Forum	Topics	Comments	Latest
Adult Programming and Services A forum to discussion adult programming and services.	0	0	
Cataloging and Technical Services A forum for cataloging and technical services topics.	0	0	
Children's Programming and Services A forum to discuss all things related to children's programming - tips, recommendations, any issues, etc.	0	0	

Innovative Mobile App

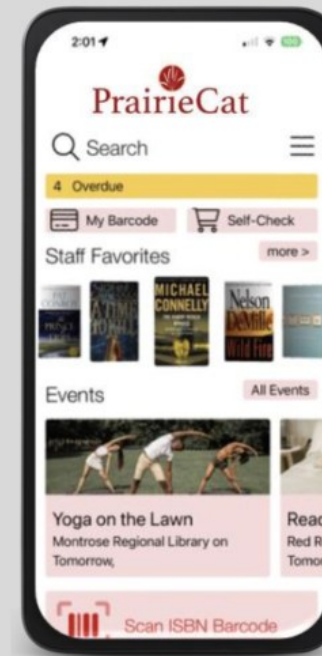
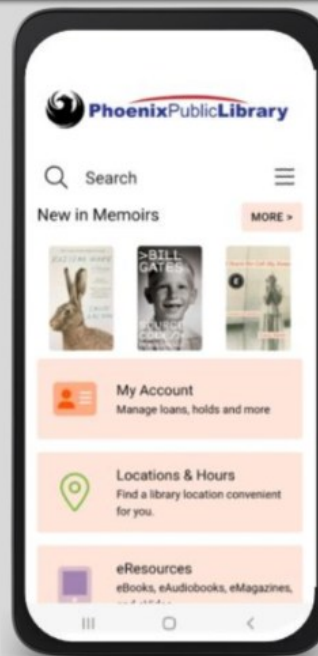
- ❑ Delegates Assembly voted to approve the Innovative Mobile contract. Libraries will pay separately for the app. The cost is dependent on the number who sign up.
- ❑ Interested libraries may opt in to the app. Notify PrairieCat by June 1.
- ❑ PrairieCat staff will work with Innovative on implementation, and staff will prepare training and marketing materials for libraries.
- ❑ Timeline TBD. Estimate Go Live in Fall 2025.

Mobile App

Highly Customizable for
Member Libraries



Clarivate | Innovative



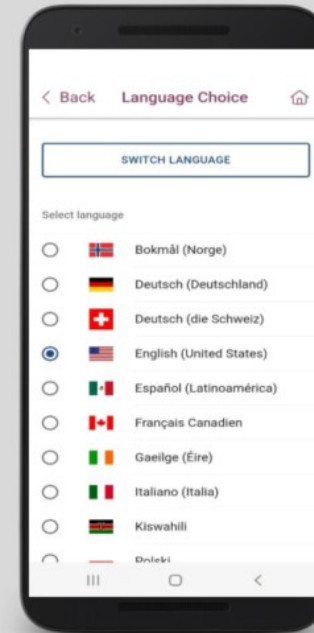
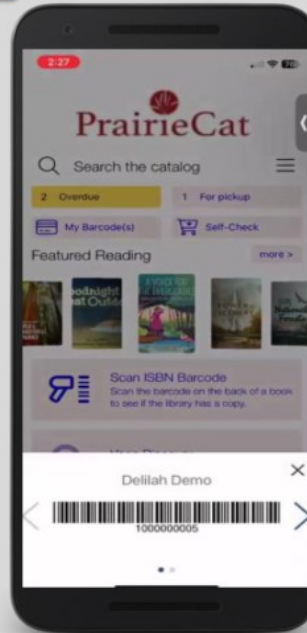
Mobile App

Modern Features for Today's Digital Patron

- **Patron tools:**

- Library Card on their phone
- Pick from multiple languages

 Clarivate | Innovative



← INNOVATE WITH US

Vega Discover

CATEGORIES

[All ideas](#)

[My feedback](#)

JUMP TO ANOTHER FORUM

[ILS - Polaris](#) 304 ideas

[ILS - Sierra](#) 230 ideas

[INN-Reach](#) 10 ideas

[Innovative Mobile](#) 46 ideas

[Innovative Phone Alerts](#) 13 ideas

[LX Starter](#) 71 ideas

[Vega Discover](#) 303 ideas

[Vega Guide](#) 2 ideas

[Vega Program](#) 108 ideas

[Vega Promote](#) 15 ideas

[Vega Promote Web](#) 8 ideas

How can we improve Vega Discover?

Enter your idea



HOT IDEAS

TOP

NEW

STATUS

122

VOTE

Facet Navigation and Display Improvements

Improve Facet display by better utilizing space in Refinement Panel and utilizing word wrapping when necessary to display full facet value.

In All Facet view display data in a single column of scrollable data and utilize word wrapping when necessary to display full facet value.

For Limited Value facets such as: format, location, collection, age group, language, donor; allow the full facet content to display in the refine panel when expanded and in all facet view by adding scroll.

Idea Exchange | Innovative Enhancement Process

[Visit ideas.iii.com](#)

Browse ideas

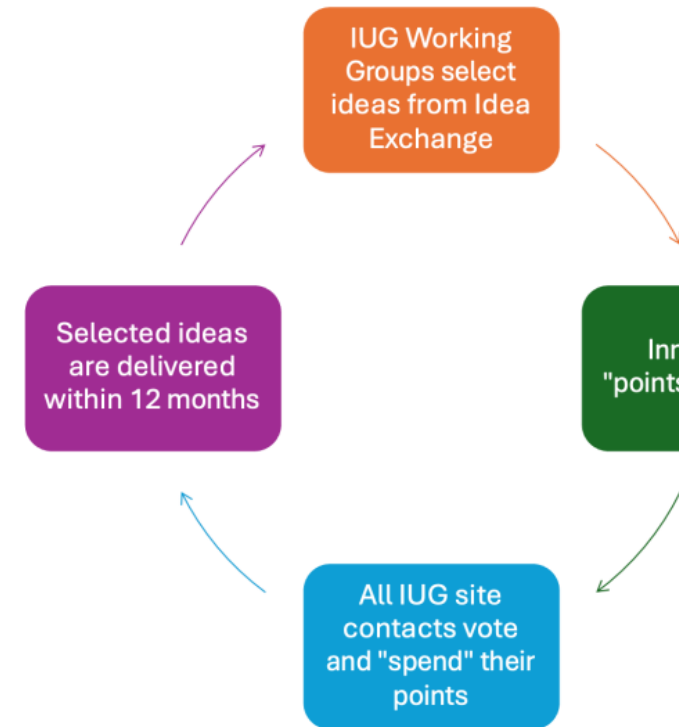
Create an account to vote and comment

[FAQ about Idea Exchange](#)

Customers using any Innovative product are welcome to participate in [Idea Exchange](#) and are not required to be IUG members.

IUG | Member Enhancement Process

- IUG member libraries vote to prioritize enhancements.
- Innovative commits to delivering the enhancement within a specified time and assigned to a release.
- Innovative will continue to use other market signals and information from additional sources to determine all the features to add to their products.
- PrairieCat has a IUG membership, but only gets one vote. Individual member libraries may elect to purchase their own IUG membership. (price ranges from \$110-150).
- **IUG Members, please vote in upcoming round of MEEP voting!**
- [More information](#)



Idea Exchange | Please Vote

[Editing eMaterial Vendor Information](#)

[Improve Locations Facet in Themed Kids Catalog](#)

[Include wildcard search option or browse option for call number searching](#)

[Include workflow for Patron Registration in Discover](#)

[Childrens materials only display in topics for childrens titles](#)

[All metadata and content displayed for a work should use the same instance ISBN](#)

[Topics \(subject headings\) should link to a list that can be refined](#)

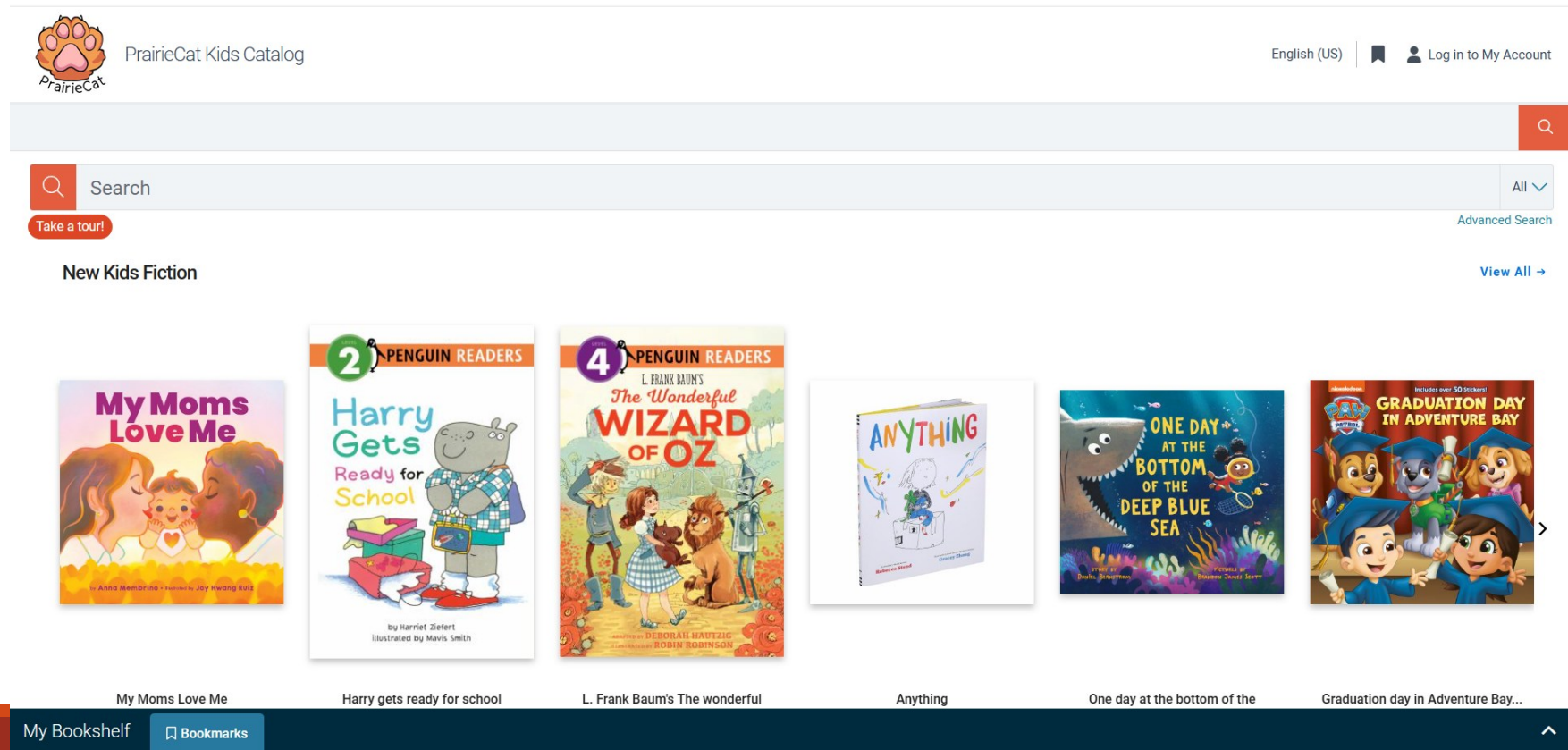
[Ability to remove a title from My Reading History](#)

[Allow SMS notification signup from Vega](#)

[Print Saved Lists](#)

Kids Catalog | Project Update

Outstanding Issue | Please Vote in Idea Exchange | [Improve Locations Facet in Themed Kids Catalog](#)



Vega Discover | What's New

- ❑ Staff User Roles / Permissions and Homepage Builder Access
- ❑ Social Media Sharing
- ❑ Search within a Showcase
- ❑ Locations Facets Improvements
- ❑ Vega Guide – Take a Tour

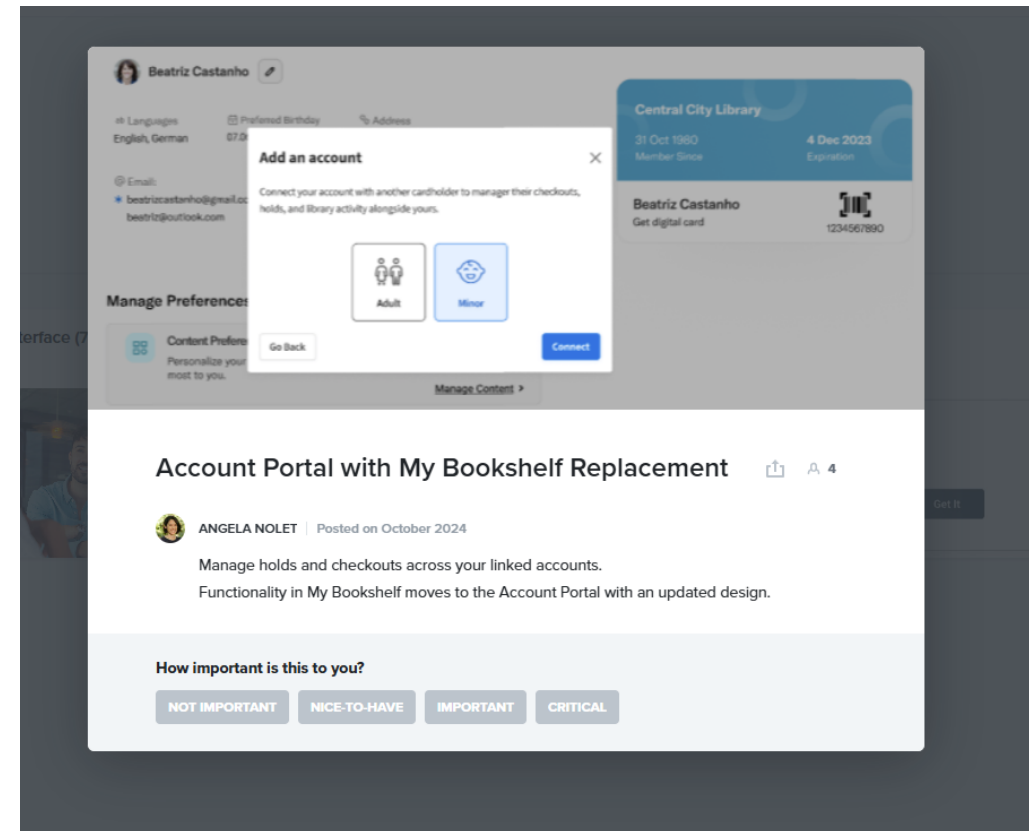
Vega Discover | What's Coming

Innovative Roadmap

- ❑ Account Portal with My Bookshelf Replacement
- ❑ Single Staff Interface: Vega LXAdmin and Vega Discover settings can be managed in a single combined staff interface.
- ❑ Notes are indexed for search: The text of notes fields in MARC/BibFrame records is indexed for search and phrase searching in the everything search index.

View Planned Enhancements on IdeaExchange

- ❑ View MARC: Staff will have the ability to view MARC from Discover



Vega Discover

Hoopla Integration Update

Need enhancements for it to work for consortia

Allow the API to auto-load/update the subset of records that Hoopla can provide, rather than the entire collection of 1.5M items

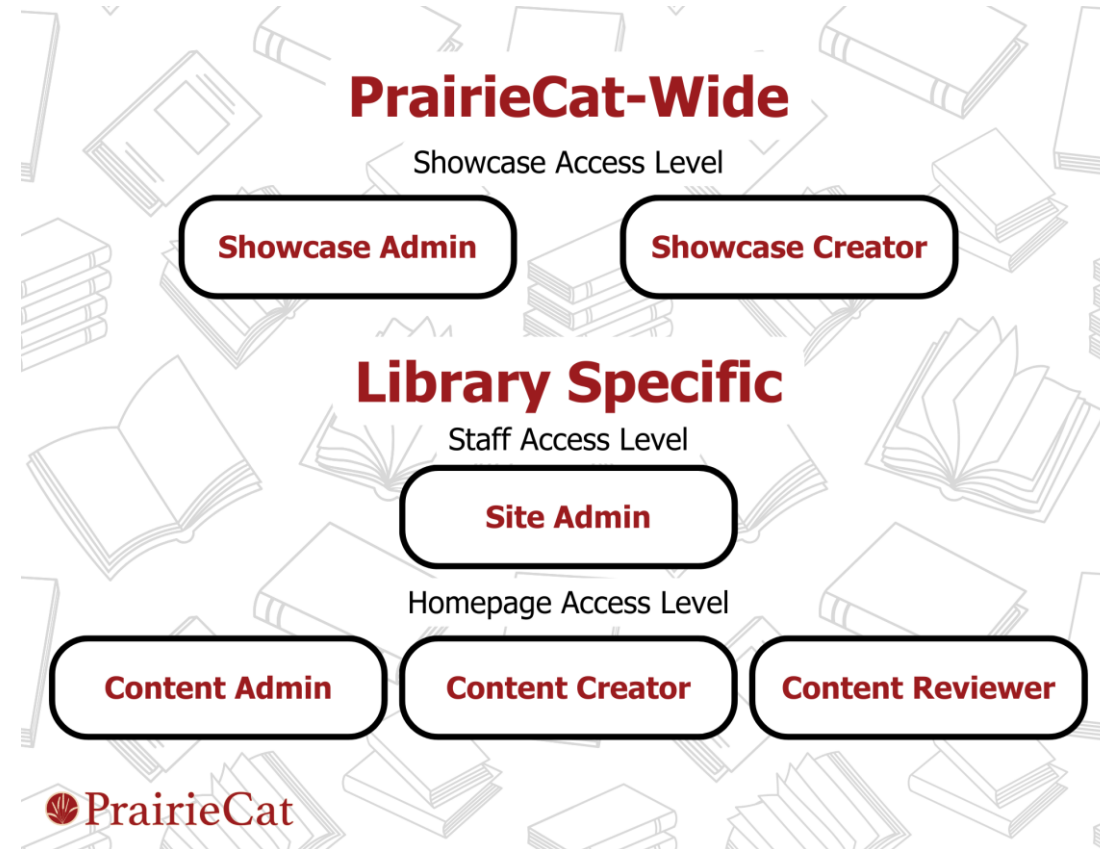
Training | Vega Discover Courses

Available Now on TalentLMS

- Vega Discover Basics
- Vega Discover Showcases
- Vega Discover Site Admin
- User Roles and Homepage Builder

The screenshot displays the 'Course catalog' page for Vega Discover. At the top, there is a blue header with 'Home / Course catalog'. Below the header is a search bar labeled 'Search courses' and a 'Name' filter button. On the right side, there is a 'CATEGORIES' section with a 'reset' link and a list of categories: A. Welcome (7), B. Sierra Essentials (9), C. Vega Discover (4) (which is selected), Circulation / Custom... (9), Reports (9), Sierra ILL Module (1), Technical Services (13), and Z. Resources (5). The main content area lists four courses, each with a circular icon, a title, a description, and a 'You have this course' button. The courses are: 1. 'Vega Discover Basics' (V0001) with a description: 'This course is an introduction to Vega Discover, PrairieCat's new OPAC (Online Public Access Catalog). Topics include basic searching, placing holds, my account, saving lists and other patron empowerment features. Membership Level: Union...'. 2. 'Vega Discover Showcases' (V0101) with a description: 'Course Description: Showcases display a visual carousel of items to the library's specifications helping libraries promote their materials and encouraging virtual exploration. - Showcases can be used to customize your library's Vega...'. 3. 'Vega Discover Site Admin' (V0201) with a description: 'Site Admins have additional customization options for their library's Vega Discover site(s). Site Admins can also create and/or promote staff users on Vega Discover. It is only necessary to take this course if you will become the Site Admin...'. 4. 'User Roles and Homepage Builder' (V0202) with a description: 'To customize your library's Vega Discover collection and kiosk homepages, you must be assigned a specific User Role access level. At least 1 Site Admin is required for libraries who wish to utilize the Homepage Builder feature. Content Admin...'. Each course icon features a red circular logo with a stylized leaf design and the text 'Vega Discover Basics' or 'User Roles & Homepage Builder'.

Vega Discover User Roles





Search

All 

[Take a tour!](#)

[Advanced Search](#)

What's Happening at Reddick? April 25th-May 3rd

29

Apr

Silent Book Club

Introverts unite! Bring whatever book you are reading and enjoy some quiet time with others. There will be snacks! This event is for teens in Grades 7-12.

4:30 PM - 5:30 PM | April 29 •

30

Apr

Kid's Book Club

This month we will be discussing *Books Aren't for Eating* by Carlie Sorosiak. We will also create edible mini-books! This program is for children in Grades K-2.

4:00 PM - 4:45 PM | April 30 •

3

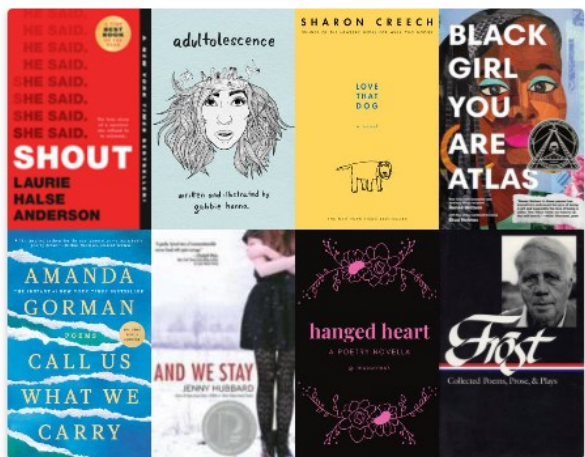
May

Manga Club

Hey manga and anime fans! This month, we're talking *Madoka Magica*. This event is for teens in Grades 7-12.

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM | May 3 •

April 2025



National Poetry Month



Arab American Heritage Month



Earth Day

LX Starter Features

Re-designed ILS Notices – professional, modern email templates that libraries can customize

Free Image Library – access to over 4 million images

Cover Images from Syndetics

Automated Bounceback Handling and Workflows

Patron Journeys for Email – Welcome, Renewal Reminder, Anniversary – automatically scheduled to send in response to specific patron information

Engagement Metrics – email opens, clicks

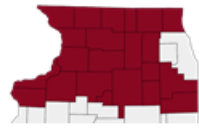
No Additional Cost - Included with Vega Discover Product

LX Starter Features

Web-based Admin – library staff have an online portal where they can manage patron messaging and view patron records in the same place.

ILS Integration – a two-way sync between Sierra and LX Starter ensures patron records and email messages stay up-to-date with email address changes and updates to contact information

LX Starter Courtesy Notice Example



Hello John,

Just a reminder that the following library materials will soon be due!

Checked Out Item(s):



Item Type	Title	Item Due Date
Book	Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire	12-22-2023
Call #		
J SCHNUR		
Barcode	Author	Item checked out on
114567325	by Rowling, J. K.	11-16-2023
		Owning Library
		Hillsburg

Renewal is Easy!

To renew your items, you can access our [online catalog](#), renew by phone at 1-888-542-7259, or contact your library.
Some items may not be eligible to be renewed.

Return Items Anytime & Nearly Anywhere!

You can return items to any [PrairieCat library](#) and many libraries have book drops outside so you can drop items off at any time.

Questions?

Please contact your home library if you have questions or need assistance.

These Materials Owned By:



The king's messenger
Kearsley, Susanna, 1966-



Death by Chocolate
Pumpkin Muffin
Graves, Sarah



She's not sorry
Kubica, Mary.



25 alive
Patterson, James, 1947-



Sunbringer
KANER, HANNAH

[View all](#)

LX Starter | What's Next

Meeting with volunteer libraries on May 7

Libraries will have May to design notices

Begin testing with courtesy notices in June, gradually add other notices

Released to all member libraries last quarter of 2025

More documentation and information on LX Starter available on the [Innovative LX Starter LibGuide](#) including [LX Starter Admin documentation](#).

[LX Starter Roadmap](#)



Any questions

A map of Illinois with numerous brown location pins scattered across the state, indicating member locations. Major cities like Chicago, Naperville, and Kewanee are labeled. The text 'Member Sharing' is overlaid in the center.

Member Sharing
