

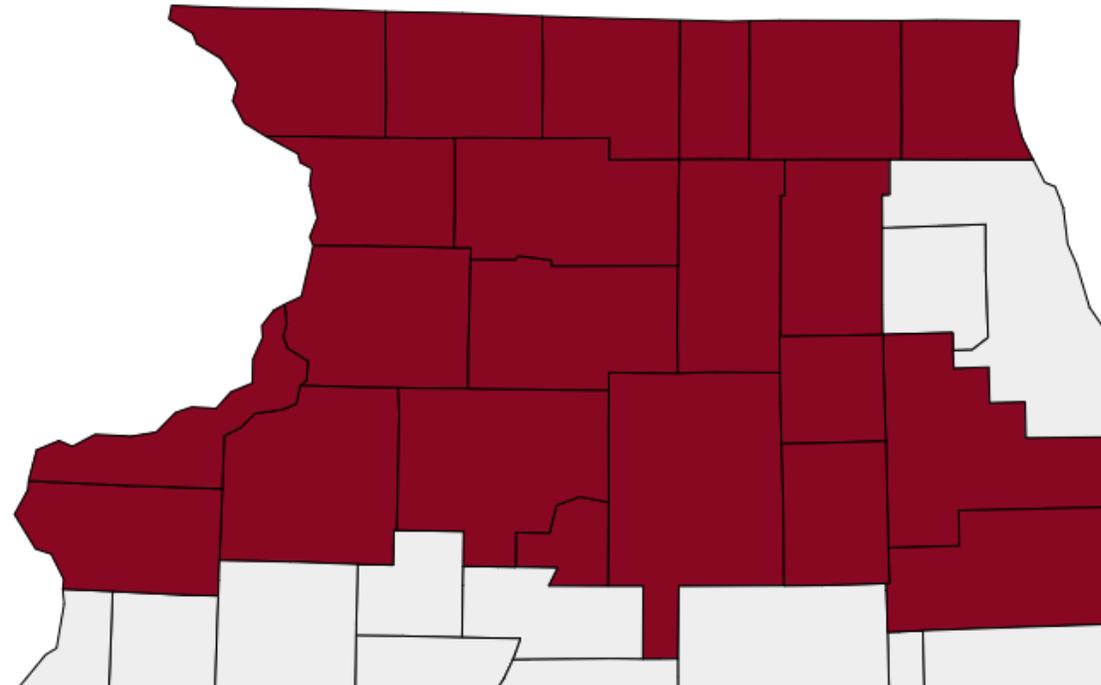


Member Update  
**May 2025**

# Welcome

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



# Agenda

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- 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

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

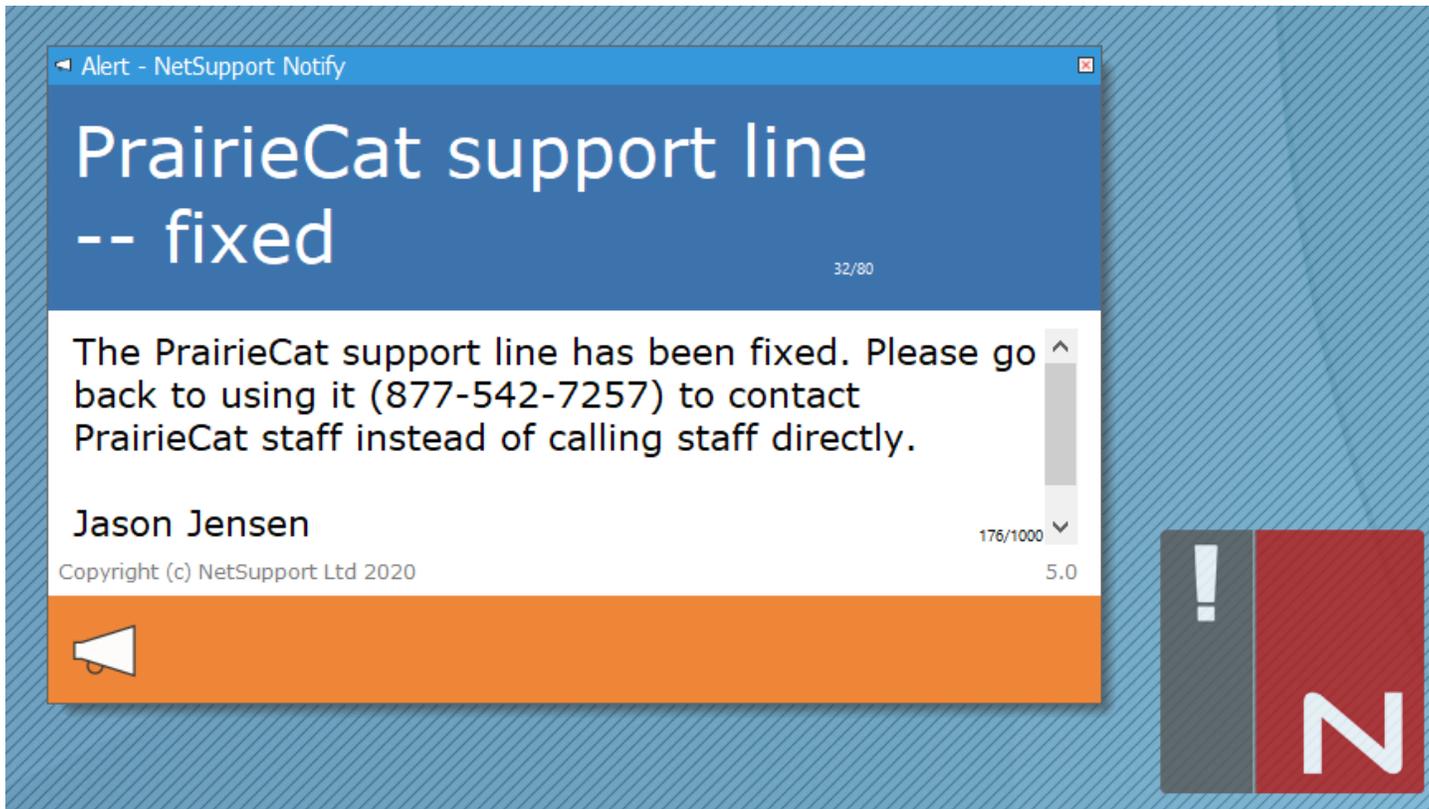
# Net Support Notify

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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

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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

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Included for PrairieCat members:

Enhancements or updates to lower-level cataloged title records.

- Request through *Enhance/Upgrade Cataloging Request* form

# PrairieCat Cataloging Services

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Included for PrairieCat members:

Original & copy cataloging.

- Request though *Original Cataloging Request Form*

# PrairieCat Cataloging Services

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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)

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Statewide cataloging (free to Illinois libraries):

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

# Cataloging Maintenance Center (CMC)

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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)

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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)

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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

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



# IMLS Changes and Impacts

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[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

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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

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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

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## 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

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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

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## **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

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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

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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

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## **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](https://support.prairiecat.info/members/forums)

**Members**

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Member Directory

---

Membership Information

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Committees & User Groups

---

Site Visit Request

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▶ 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
<b>Adult Programming and Services</b> A forum to discussion adult programming and services.	0	0	
<b>Cataloging and Technical Services</b> A forum for cataloging and technical services topics.	0	0	
<b>Children's Programming and Services</b> A forum to discuss all things related to children's programming - tips, recommendations, any issues, etc.	0	0	

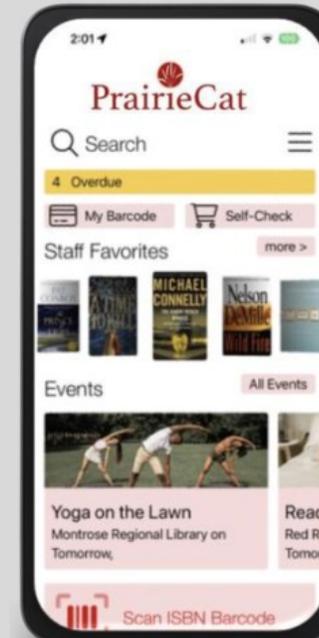
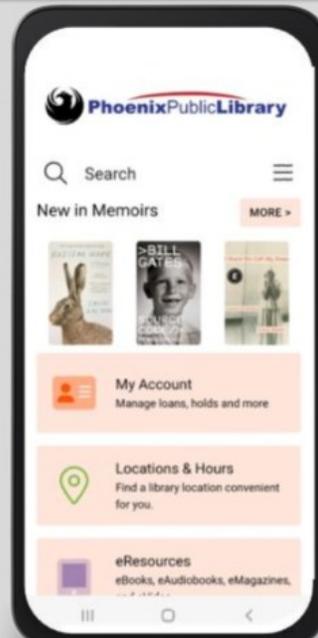
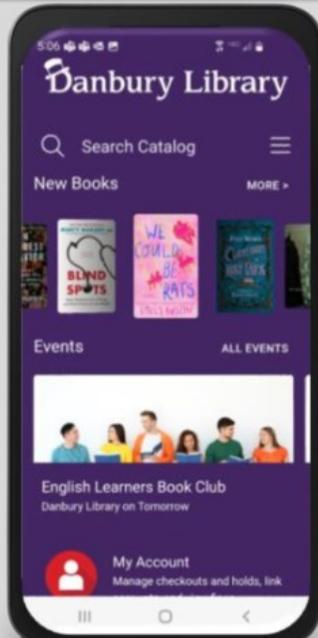
# Innovative Mobile App

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- ❑ 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



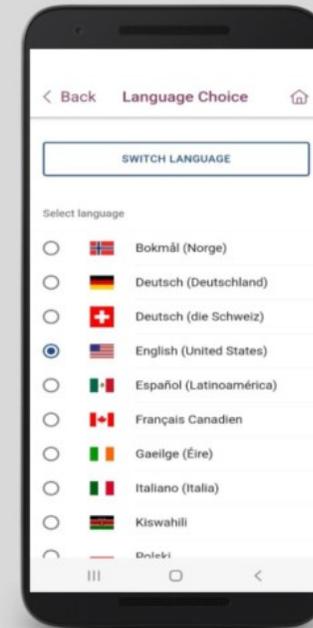
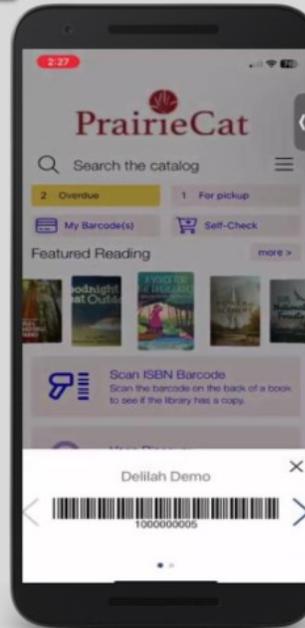
Clarivate | Innovative

# Mobile App

## Modern Features for Today's Digital Patron

### • Patron tools:

- Library Card on their phone
- Pick from multiple languages



← 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](#) 15 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](https://ideas.iii.com)

Browse ideas

Create an account to vote and comment

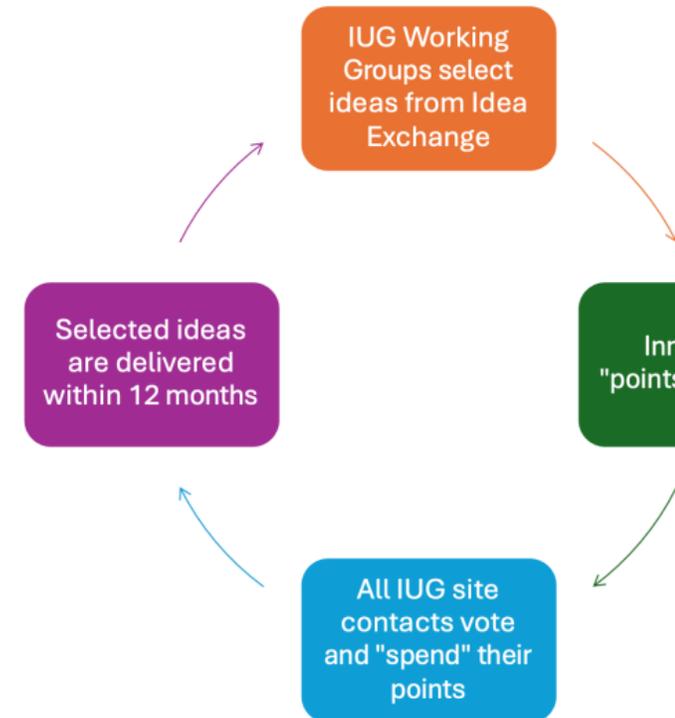
[FAQ about Idea Exchange](#)

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

# IUG | Member Enhancement Process

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- 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](#)

The screenshot shows the PrairieCat Kids Catalog website interface. At the top left is the logo, a paw print with the text "PrairieCat Kids Catalog". On the top right, there are links for "English (US)", a bookmark icon, and "Log in to My Account". Below the header is a search bar with a magnifying glass icon and a search button. Underneath the search bar is a "Search" input field with a "Take a tour!" button on the left and "All" and "Advanced Search" options on the right. The main content area is titled "New Kids Fiction" with a "View All" link. A carousel of book covers is displayed, including "My Moms Love Me", "Harry Gets Ready for School" (labeled as a Level 2 Penguin Reader), "L. Frank Baum's The Wonderful Wizard of Oz" (labeled as a Level 4 Penguin Reader), "Anything", "One Day at the Bottom of the Deep Blue Sea", and "Graduation Day in Adventure Bay". At the bottom of the page, there are navigation links for "My Bookshelf" and "Bookmarks", and a small upward-pointing arrow.

# Vega Discover | What's New

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

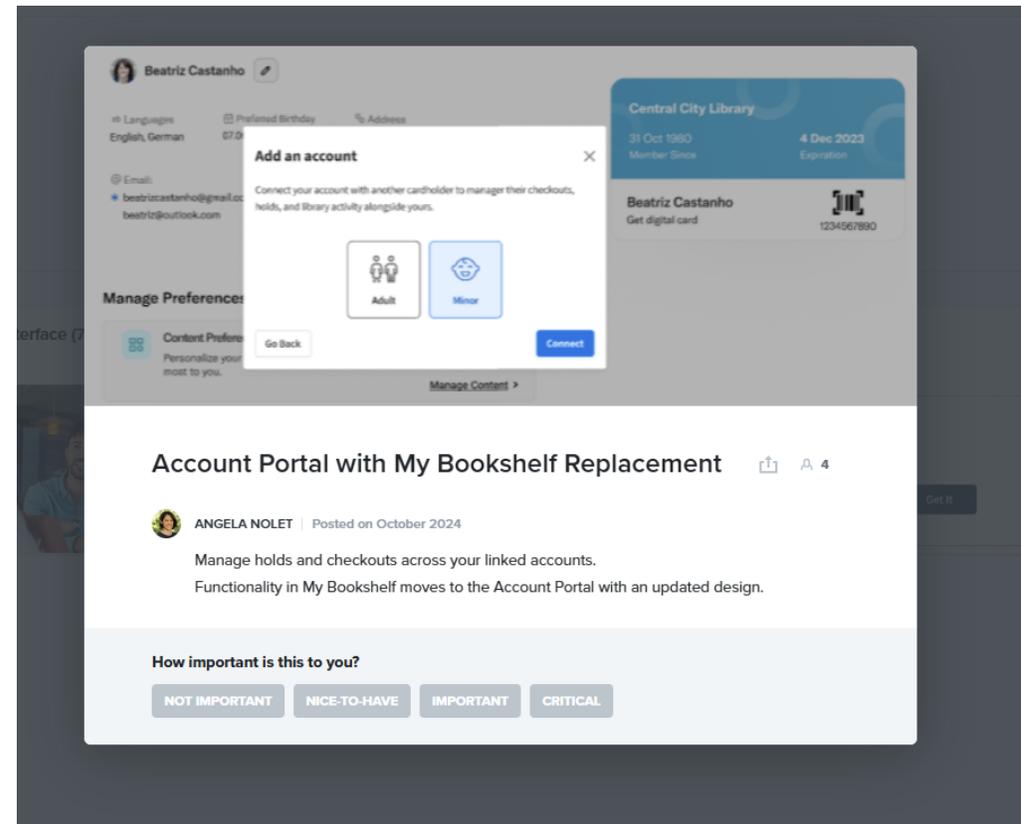
# Vega Discover | What's Coming

## 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 with a search bar and a 'Name' filter. The 'CATEGORIES' sidebar on the right lists various categories, with 'C. Vega Discover (4)' selected. The main content area lists four courses, each with a circular icon, a title, a description, and a 'You have this course' button.

**Home / Course catalog**

Search courses Name Grid Table

**CATEGORIES** [reset](#)

- A. Welcome (7)
- B. Sierra Essentials (9)
- C. Vega Discover (4)
- Circulation / Custome... (9)
- Reports (9)
- Sierra ILL Module (1)
- Technical Services (13)
- Z. Resources (5)

**Vega Discover Basics** (V0001)  
C. Vega Discover  
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...  
You have this course

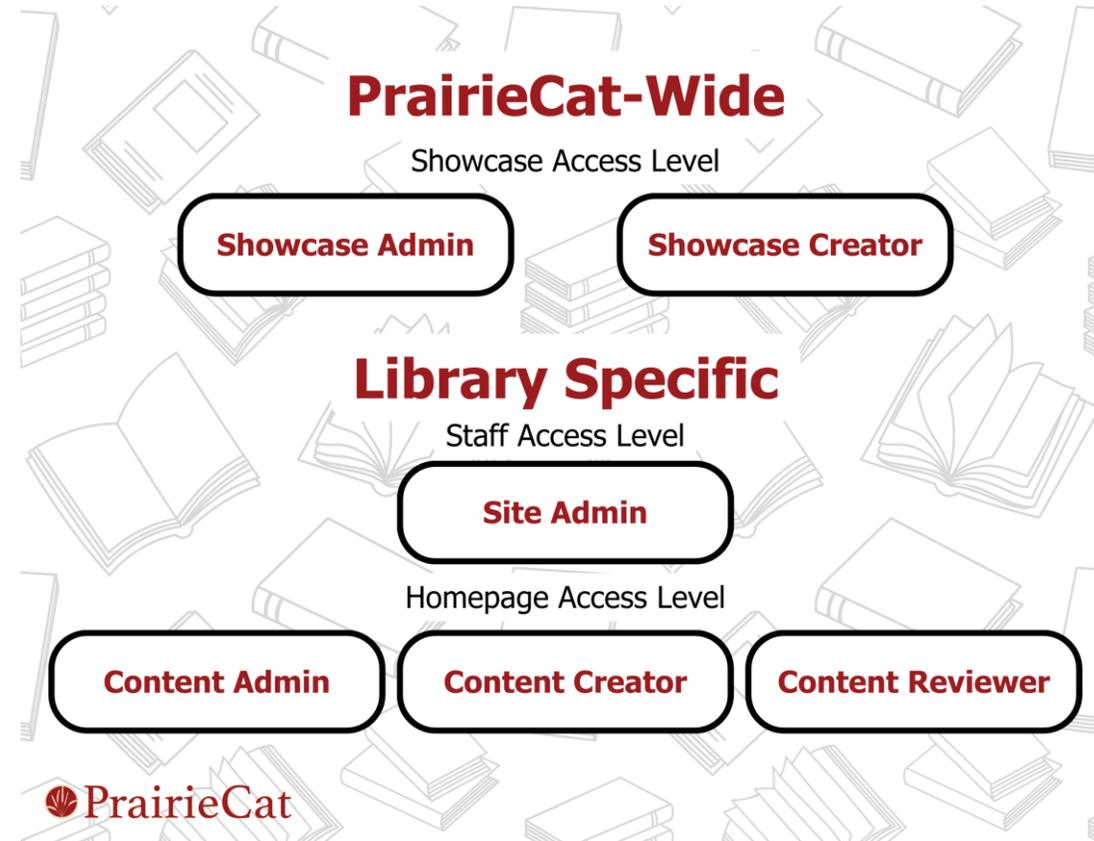
**Vega Discover Showcases** (V0101)  
C. Vega Discover / Showcases  
Course Description: Showcases display a visual carousel of items to the library's specifications helping libraries promote their materials and encouraging virtual exploration. - Showcases can be used to customize your library's Vega...  
You have this course

**Vega Discover Site Admin** (V0201)  
C. Vega Discover / User Roles and Homepage Builder  
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...  
You have this course

**User Roles and Homepage Builder** (V0202)  
C. Vega Discover / User Roles and Homepage Builder  
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...  
You have this course

# 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

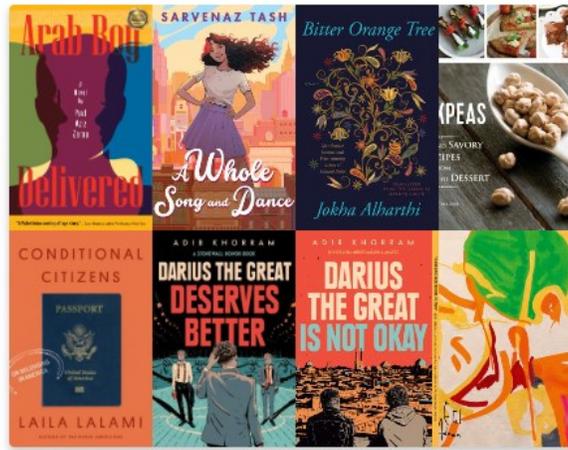
Hey manga and anime fans! This month, we're talking *Madoka Magica*. This event is for teens in Grades 7-12.

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM | May 3 •

### April 2025



National Poetry Month



Arab American Heritage Month



Earth Day

# LX Starter Features

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**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	Item checked out on
Barcode	114567325	11-16-2023
	Author by Rowling, J. K.	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 grey location pins scattered across the state, representing member locations. Major cities like Chicago, Naperville, and Schaumburg are visible. A solid orange bar is at the bottom of the page.

# Member Sharing