

Connecticut Library for Accessible Books (CT LAB) Newsletter

July/August 2023

CT LAB News

Upcoming CT LAB Book Club Meeting

The next CT LAB book club will meet virtually on July 19, 2023, from 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM. The title that we are reading for July is *The Lincoln Highway* by Amor Towles. This title is available as a Talking Book on cartridge and from BARD as DB 105197.

Please register for the book club by calling Paula McLean at (860) 704-2216 or (800) 842-4516. Participants will receive the Zoom meeting link or dial in phone number for the book club meeting following registration.

Updates from the National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled (NLS)

FLQ is now ILQ

Looking for the latest non-English language books? The publication formerly known as *Foreign Language Quarterly* is now *International Language Quarterly*. The latest issue of *ILQ*, available at www.loc.gov/nls/ilq, includes recently digitized books in Algonquian and Cherokee, as well as a wide selection of books in Spanish, Russian, Chinese, and other languages.

BARD Mobile Updates

NLS recently released updated versions of BARD mobile for Kindle Fire and Android devices.

BARD Mobile Kindle Fire Version 1.4.6

This is the second in a series of releases designed to support native Amazon Kindle Fire OS development and Amazon accessibility functions, including VoiceView for screen reader and braille output support.

This release includes several usability and accessibility enhancements, including improved color contrast and text sizing. Some issues related to the VoiceView have been resolved. Additionally, a few bug fixes have been implemented to enhance the overall user experience.

BARD Mobile Android Version 2.0

This is a major release and includes in-app search capability as well as several other feature updates, increased app stability, and bug fixes. This is the first in a series of planned releases to allow robust in-app searching and to eliminate the need to exit the app to search on BARD website.

With this update, BARD Mobile no longer includes the embedded view of the BARD website. Instead, it gives patrons the ability to search within the app by keyword, author, title, or annotation and, from the search results listings, download the book directly to their Android devices.

Upcoming NLS Programs

Get to Know the Many Faces of BARD

NLS staff members offer tips, answer questions, and demonstrate new features of BARD, the BARD Mobile app, and BARD Express each month during **The Many Faces of BARD**. This online event is open to all patrons and is held at 7 p.m. eastern time on the second Thursday of every month. Get details on upcoming sessions, login information, and recordings of previous programs at the [Many Faces of BARD web page](#).

July Patron Corner Program

Patron Corner, presented the second Monday of the third month of the quarter, shares specific information of interest to patrons regarding an announced topic. June's Patron Corner has been moved to Wednesday, July 26, to celebrate the 33rd anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Get details on this program, login information, and recordings to previous Patron Corner programs at the [Patron Corner](#) page of the NLS website.

NLS Summer Reading Events

Upcoming NLS Summer Reading events are listed below. If a program is designed for a specific age range, it is noted in the event description. Please note that you must register for each author talk that you would like to attend. After completing registration for an event, you will receive an email with the Zoom meeting information for that program.

- Author talk (designed for middle grades, but all are welcome): Tuesday, July 11, at 7:00 pm EDT, with Celia Perez, author of *The First Rule of Punk*. [Register for the Celia Perez program](#).

- Author talk (designed for Kindergarten through 5th grade, but all are welcome): Saturday, July 22, at 1:00 pm EDT, with Annette Bay Pimentel, author of *All the Way to the Top: How One Girl's Fight for Americans with Disabilities Changed Everything*, and Jennifer Keelan-Chaffins, whose story is told in the book. [Register for the Annette Bay Pimentel and Jennifer Keelan-Chaffins program.](#)
- Author talk (designed for Young Adults and middle grades, but all are welcome): Thursday, July 27, at 7:00 pm EDT, with Kwame Alexander, author of *The Crossover*. [Register for the Kwame Alexander program.](#)
- Author talk (designed for Young Adults, but all are welcome): Thursday, August 3, at 7:00 pm EDT, with Jenny Torres Sanchez, author of *We Are Not from Here*. [Register for the Jenny Torres Sanchez program.](#)

Connect with CT LAB

CT LAB Contact Information

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Upcoming CT LAB Holiday Closings

Monday, September 4, 2023 – Labor Day

Monday, October 9, 2023 – Columbus Day

Friday, November 10, 2023 – Veterans Day

Thursday, November 23, 2023 – Thanksgiving Day

Monday, December 25, 2023 – Christmas Day
Monday, January 1, 2024 – New Year's Day