WLNG meeting notes

(held at RAILS on 5/8/2024, 16 participants)

Larissa – Gave a brief history of WLNG group.

**Topic: Marketing Magazines in World Languages (WL)**

Larissa – (Skokie Lib) - on display by first letter in of title (alphabetical order)

All magazines are located near the WL area. No signage.

New magazines can’t (shouldn’t) circulate but (technically) can if attempted to check out, for 3 weeks.

Anna (Palatine Lib) - magazines will be moving to the WL area, in association with the designated language.

Jessica (Vernon Area) - adult WL magazines are in clear boxes near the newspapers in Ref area. No kids WL magazines

Anjelica (Prospect Hts) - lack of space is a big issue. Mags in the WL area is very tight. Polish mags go out well, but now being discontinued.

**Topic: Purchasing WL Magazines & Books**

If not able to get WL mags from EBSCO – where?

* Quo Vadis (a Polish book store in Chicago)
* Japanese books (Mitsuwa in Arlington Hts)
* Polish - (Polonia.com)
* Polish – D&Z (but does not list ISBN’s)

**Topic: Promoting Collections & Outreach**

Larissa (Skokie Lib) – places “NEW” labels on the spine.

“New” items are shelved in with regular WL collection – (e.g. Danielle Steel has both new and older copies in Russian on the shelf together)

“New” stickers are placed on any item New to the library – not necessarily newly published.

“New” stickers stay on new items for about 2 years. The sticker also gives you an idea of how often it circulates, based on how often it is found on the shelf.

Jessica (Vernon Area Lib) – Items in the catalog also reflect “New”

Isra (Oak Lawn) – also does “New” stickers and the new books are shelved at the beginning of the WL collections, in accordance with the language.

Naseem (Niles Maine Dist Lib) – puts a “New” book display

Esli (Mt. Prospect Lib) – WL lacks circ so also does a “New” display for WL collections. The “New WL” sign also states what other languages they have in the WL collection to peak interest.

**Topic: Programming**

Jessica (Vernon Area Lib Adult) – since 2021, she does a WL Movie viewing and discussion group. Jessica leads the discussions. (past movies shown: Parasite, The Quiet Girl) and these are via Kanopy or DVD. Has subtitles on for attendees.

Naseem (Niles Maine Lib) – will also try to promote foreign movies followed by a discussion.

Lisa (Vernon-Area Lib YS) – does story times in WL’s. They have an outside organization that does them in Spanish.

Larissa (Skokie Lib) – had bi-lingual Storytimes (ex: Russian/Eng) for kids but it appealed to the wrong target audience attending.

Nincy (RAILS) – Lots of immigrants do not know what all libraries offer!

Naseem (Niles-Maine Lib) – still trying to figure out her new position and how to target the WL population. She had a Ramadan book display that was successful.

**Topic: Catalogs (OPACs)**

Larissa (Skokie Lib) – showed us on the SPL catalog the new AI software, called RECITE <https://reciteme.com/us/> – that is a big help at the desk for helping patrons. You have to click on the logo (a person in a circle) to have it start the “Recite Me” option. Larissa also said Google translate is not always correct and maybe insulting (?) for how it translates things. https://skokielibrary.info/books-movies-more/world-languages/

Skokie Lib has a webpage devoted to all WL collection: <https://skokielibrary.info/books-movies-more/world-languages/>

Jessica (Vernon-Area Lib) also said her lib borrowed Skokie’s example with devoting a webpage all to WL collection items. <https://guides.vapld.info/world-languages>

**Topic: E-resources**

Larissa (Skokie Lib) – also addressed that ***Overdrive*** has items in other languages but you must know what you are looking for bc the majority of items are only in that language (not transliterated). ***Hoopla*** does offer transliteration of WL items.

Some WL magazines in Overdrive or Hoopla.

PressReader is the best option for WL magazines & newspapers.

Lisa (Vernon Area Lib) – LOTE (online language program for kids) LOTE (pronounced: L – (long O) – T – (long E) - has promo materials that you can print from their database. Also, Tumblebooks for kids.

**Topic: Unsuccessful Language Collections or WL Requests**

Larissa (Skokie Lib) - withdrawn books from WL can go to schools, or by connecting with residents who speak other languages (maybe nursing facilities for caregivers, etc.) Connect with community organizations. The SPL Bookmobile also finds out about language needs from residents that don’t come in to the library but go to the Bookmobile.

Anjelica (Prospect Hts Lib) – withdrawn materials go to “Friends of the Library” book sales or to outreach events.

Lisa (Vernon Area Lib) – asked if any Mongolian Lang collections? – no

Larissa suggested looking at ILL’s via NY Pub Lib or Brooklyn Pub Lib.

Larissa (Skokie Lib) - If a certain language is requested (e.g. Bulgarian or Hungarian) you may have to say no to adding it. - The need for a small group won’t likely be filled with the same tastes in reading preferences.

Also, language may not be easy to find for purchasing.

Advice – don’t purchase WL books under $5. (they fall apart quickly)

**Topic: Promoting WL Collections (ideas)**

* Flyers - distribute at various supermarkets or churches.
* Use Schools for distributing brochures (info) to parent at meetings.
* Multi-Cultural events (neighborhood, schools or at churches).
* Anna (Palatine Lib) – has an ESL Conversation Club tri-fold with resources that will appeal to both ESL and WL speakers & readers.

**Topic: RAILS Cataloging WL Services**

Nincy George (RAILS Cataloging Services Manager) – RAILS will create records for all languages (but no digital content).

<https://railslibraries.org/catalogs/cataloging-services>

* This service is from a State of Illinois Grant.
* Items can be sent to RAILS via direct (physical book) or upload photos of the book and the info from the book.
* Also, RAILS can do specialized cataloging services for items other than books (e.g. puppets or kits)
* RAILS will add OCLC & MARC records.

If you aren’t pleased with a record, Nincy can edit the record.

**Next WLNG Meeting:**

At Prospect Heights Library on September 11th, from 10am – 12noon.