

RAILS Report

Catalog membership grants

RAILS made the following Cataloging Membership Grant awards to libraries in June 2021. The deadlines for FY2022 are October 15, 2021 and April 15, 2022, and an updated application will be posted to the RAILS website shortly.

- Amboy SD 272, \$15,505 to join RRLC
- Regional Center for Change, \$7,140 to join RRLC (also a new RAILS member)
- Marengo-Union Public Library District, \$7,435 to join PrairieCat

SHARE Illinois

Pursuant to a recent conversation with the Consortia Committee regarding the future of SHARE Illinois, a legacy cooperative project intended to facilitate staff-initiated interlibrary loans among participating Illinois library automation consortia, RAILS will sunset our support for this program effective October 30, 2021. We will reach out to participating consortia with specific details regarding termination of agreements and taking down the website and email list.

Specialized cataloging service

RAILS specialized cataloging support program is entering its initial pilot phase. RAILS staff will work with five member libraries to test-drive the procedures, and we intend to open the service to the full RAILS membership in Fall 2021. As reported in a previous Consortia Committee meeting, this program provides supplementary cataloging services and expertise for original and world language cataloging in order to support and develop quality cataloging and resource sharing. This service covers non-Latin/Asian languages and different formats of materials for original or copy cataloging. It does not cover modern European languages cataloging, genealogy, local history, and special collections (i.e., local authors, community cookbooks, government documents, etc.), as RAILS libraries can utilize the Cataloging Maintenance Center (CMC) operated by IHLS for those materials.

Student Online Personal Protection Act (SOPPA) guidance

RAILS and IHLS collaborated on the following joint statement regarding SOPPA, which the Association for Illinois School Library Educators (AISLE) sent to their membership in June. To date, we have received one inquiry from a RAILS member regarding this statement, pertaining to our digital collections.

By now, you are likely familiar with the Student Online Protection Act (SOPPA), which is effective July 1, 2021. Under this new legislation, school districts are required to provide additional guarantees that student data is protected when collected by educational technology

companies. The library systems are not considered operators under SOPPA, meaning vendors that exclusively serve K-12 schools; however, we support the protections and philosophies of the SOPPA data privacy legislation. If you have questions regarding your automation system and SOPPA, please contact your LLSAP.

If you have questions about how to contact a IHLS contracted technology vendor regarding SOPPA, please contact: cthompson@illinoisheartland.org If you have questions about how to contact a RAILS contracted technology vendor regarding SOPPA, please contact: jody.rubel@railslibraries.info

RAILS strategic plan

RAILS is in the very early stages of its work on a new strategic plan with Stephanie Chase of Constructive Disruption. We anticipate that work will pick up speed in late August, after the new RAILS Board members have been seated, and continue through the remainder of 2021. We anticipate a member-driven process with many opportunities for feedback and perspective as we move forward.