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# RAILS Report – Consortia Committee

## Catalog Membership Grant

The final deadline for FY2024 Catalog Membership Grants is April 15. We expect to make award announcements in May. Budgeting for FY2025 is underway, and we anticipate finalizing the application and announcing deadlines in July 2024.

## RAILS Resource Sharing Committee

There is no separate report to the Resource Sharing Committee included in the Consortia Committee meeting packet for April because the committee has not met since the most recent report was provided. The next Resource Sharing Committee meeting is scheduled for May 6<sup>th</sup>, at which they will continue their discussion of revisions to the RAILS Resource Sharing Plan.

## Statement in Support of Illinois' Readers' Choice Awards

The Association of Illinois School Library Educators (AISLE) and the Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Book Awards released a [statement](#) highlighting the importance of its book awards in encouraging students to read widely. This statement has been co-signed by the Illinois Heartland Library System (IHLS), the Illinois Library Association (ILA), and the Reaching Across Illinois Library System (RAILS). RAILS supports the work of school libraries and views these awards as essential for building lifelong readers.

## Find More Illinois Updates

Find More Illinois is in the process of onboarding our second academic library, South Suburban Community College, along with two more high school libraries. The CCS libraries are in the testing phase with the FMI software. The first twelve CCS libraries will be trained and go live in May, and the next group has training planned for the summer.

## New RAILS Rockford Delivery Hub

The transition to a new Rockford delivery hub took place on Monday, March 25. In addition to its close proximity to our existing space, this new facility offers several advantages including indoor parking for RAILS vehicles, increased square footage, and newer HVAC equipment. RAILS Facilities and IT staff are currently wrapping up work on a few necessary upgrades including the installation of security cameras and alarm system, enhanced interior and exterior lighting, and upgraded data ports.

## New RAILS Member Engagement Manager

Jessica Silva started with RAILS on Wednesday, April 3, 2024, as the Member Engagement Specialist for the Marketing & Communications department in Burr Ridge.

## Improvements to L2 and New L2 Registration Video

L2 has received a set of improvements to the visual display of the calendar that were based on user feedback and have been well received. Staff are currently working on estimating costs for potential feature development in FY2025, and will work with the statewide L2 Governing Group to assign priority levels to these features. Suggestions and feedback are always welcome via the L2 help form. RAILS Applications & Web Developer Brian Smith also created a [video with instructions on setting up a new account](#).