Discover More With Aspen

Presented by
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What we'll cover today

What's new in the past year
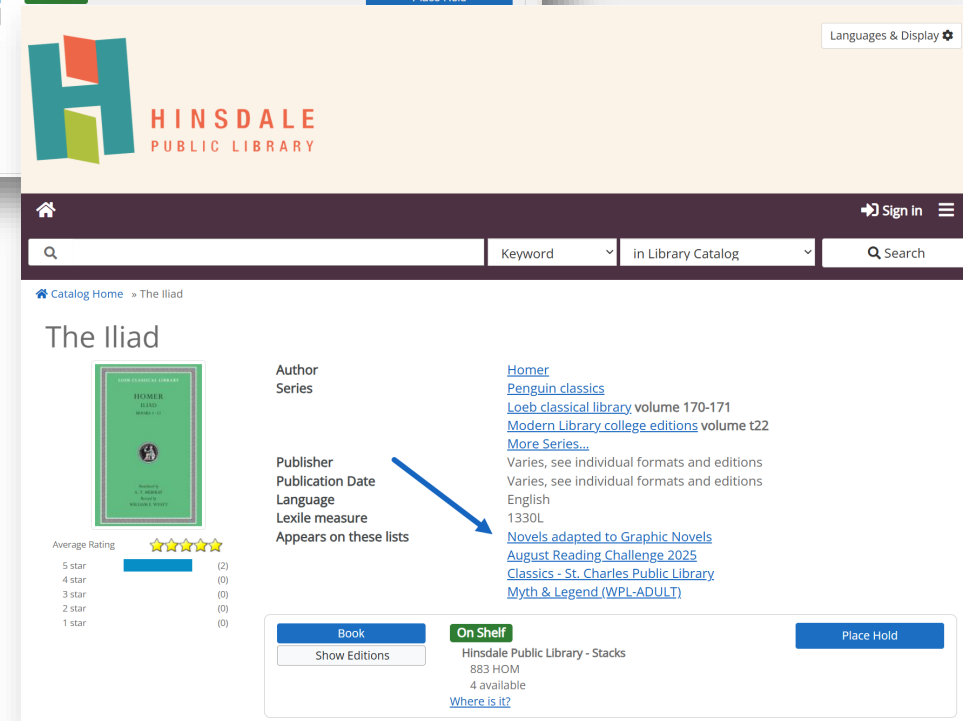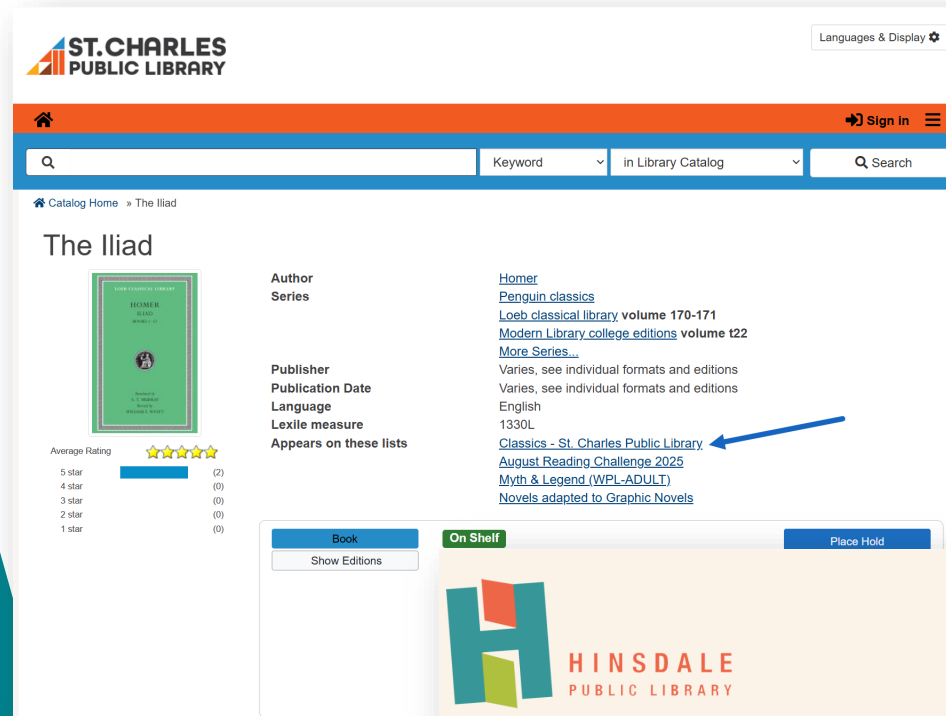
Aspen hacks and customizations

Looking forward

What is new in the past year

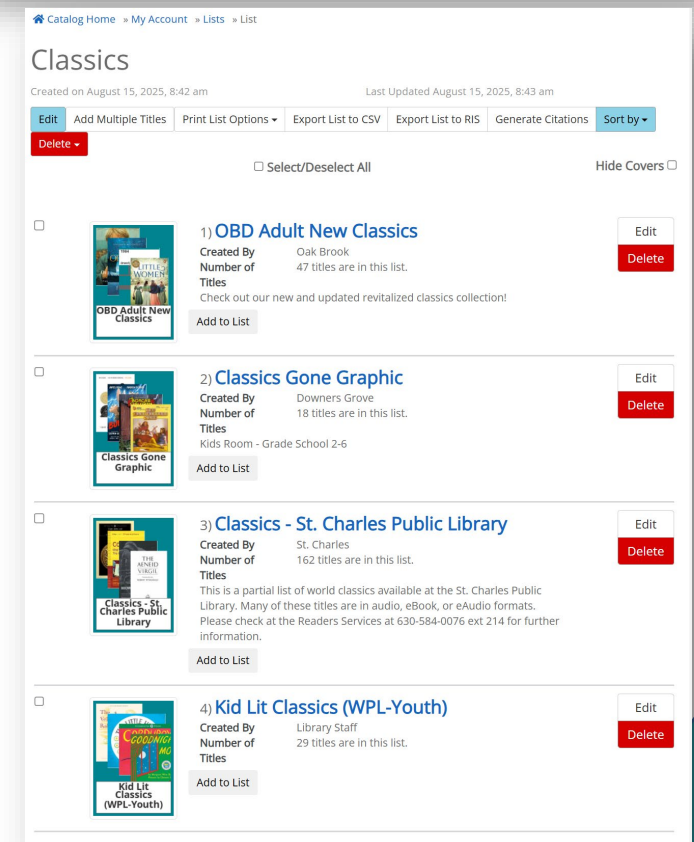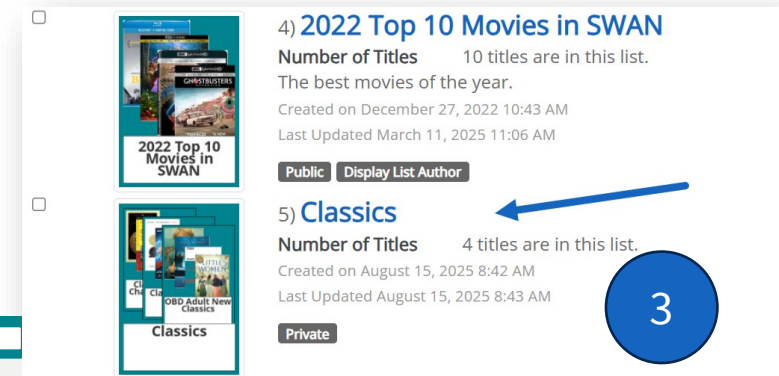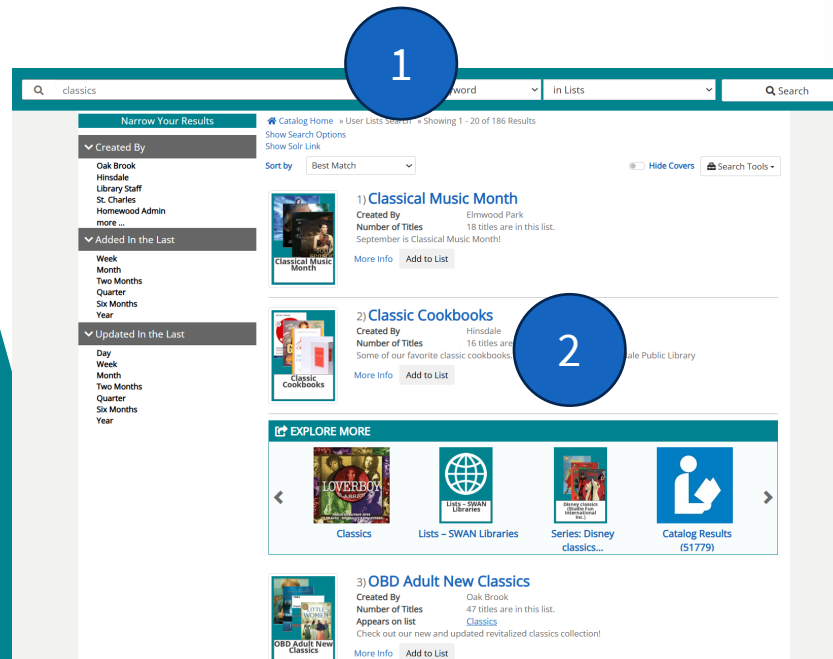# Your library's lists float to the top

Lists from other libraries appear below, highlighting the lists your staff have created.

List of lists

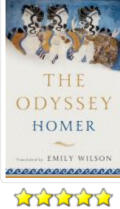You can create a "list of lists" through a list search.

1) Search for lists in the "Lists" dropdown

2) Click "Add to list"

3) View your list of lists in your account, under "Lists"

Format order

We now have the ability to customize the format order in grouped works.

The current order was set by the Discovery & User Experience Group.

Format order

Books
- Physical book formats (Book, Large Print, Braille, Graphic Novel, etc.)
- eBook formats
- Physical audiobook formats (Pre-loaded Audio, Audiobook CD, etc.)
- eAudiobook formats

Music
- Music CDs
- Vinyl Records
- eMusic formats
- Other music formats (Music Cassette, etc.)

Video
- DVD
- Blu-Ray
- Blu-Ray/DVD Combo
- 4K Blu-ray
- eVideo formats
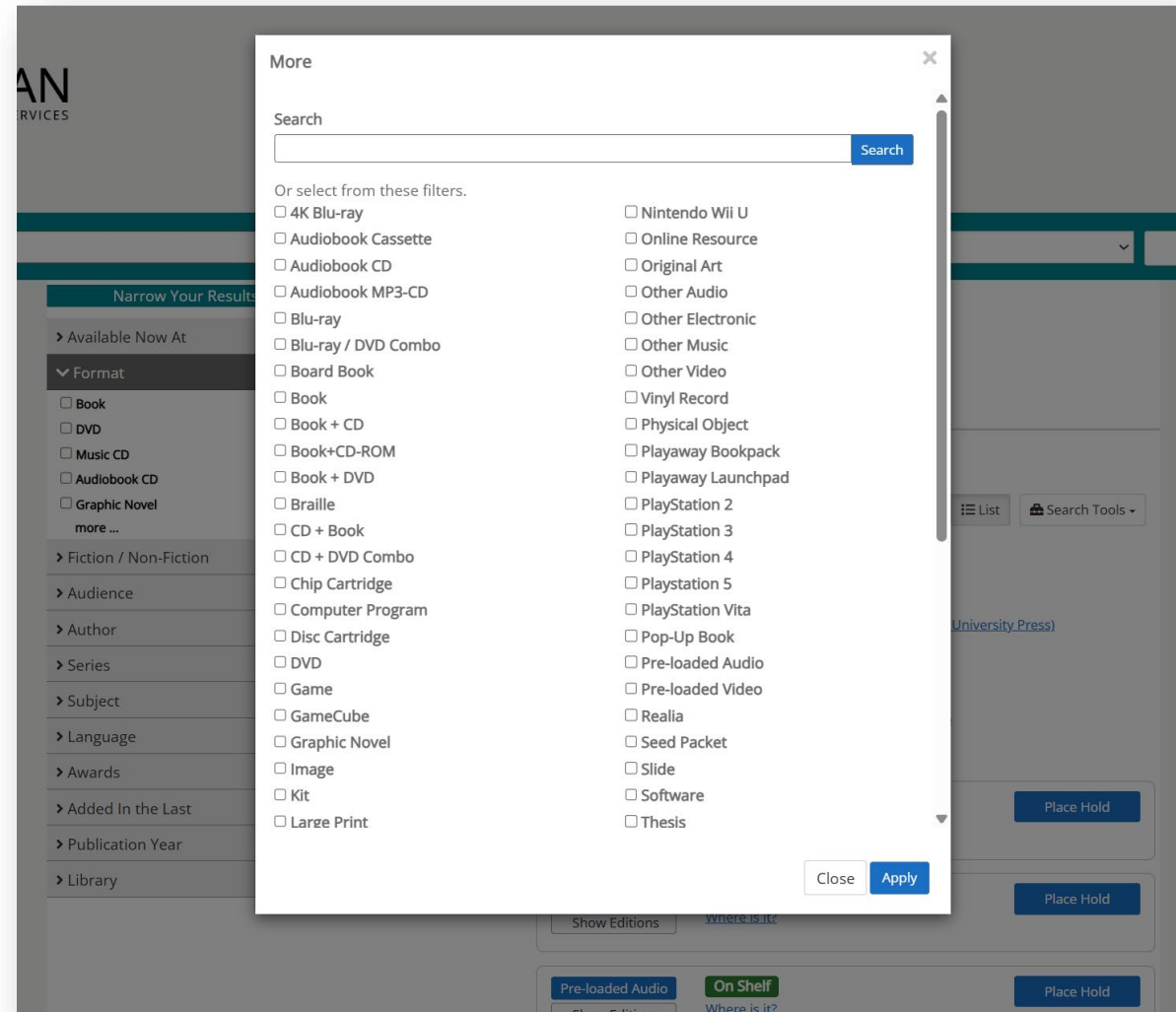- Pre-loaded Video
- Other video formats (VHS, etc.)

Video games and other
- Listed in alphabetical order.

New formats

- Switch 2
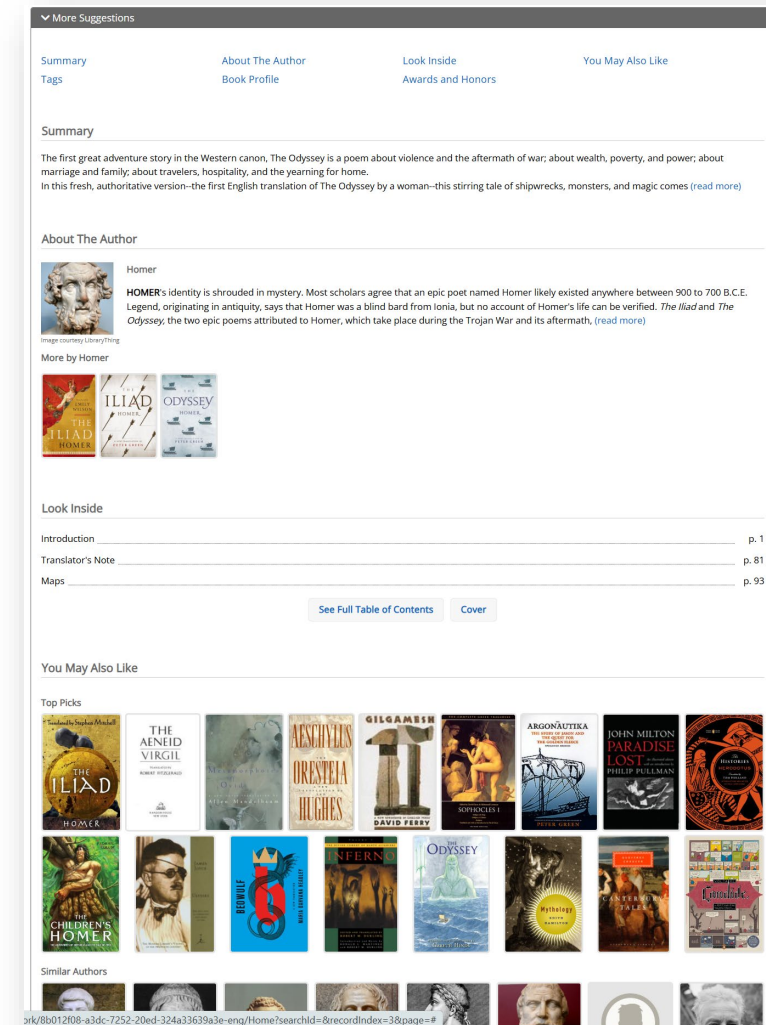- Video enabled books
- Tonies
- Yotos

SWAN Library Services

View all formats in the format filter

Recommendations in the details page

Syndetics Unbound replaced Novelist Select for recommendations in the catalog.

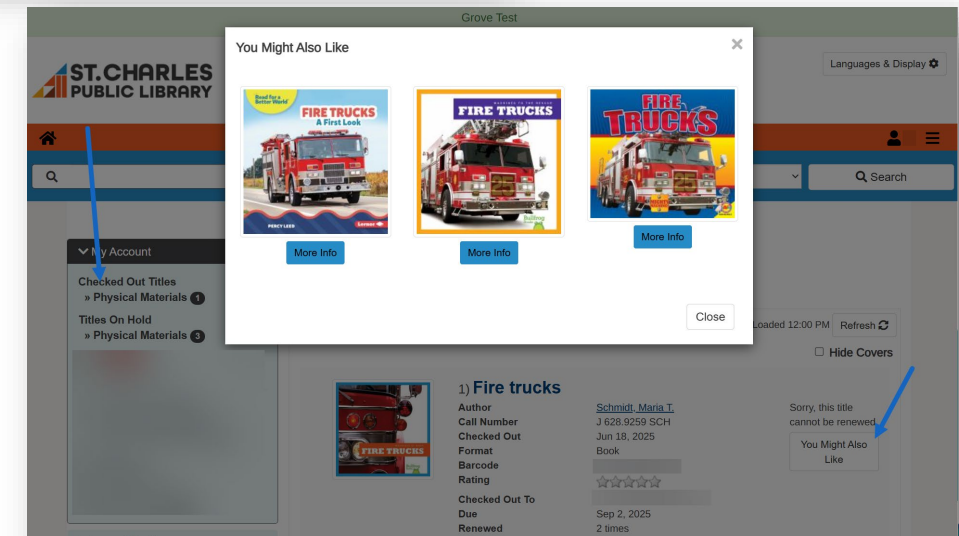You can still purchase and integrate Novelist Select on a per library basis, if you wish.
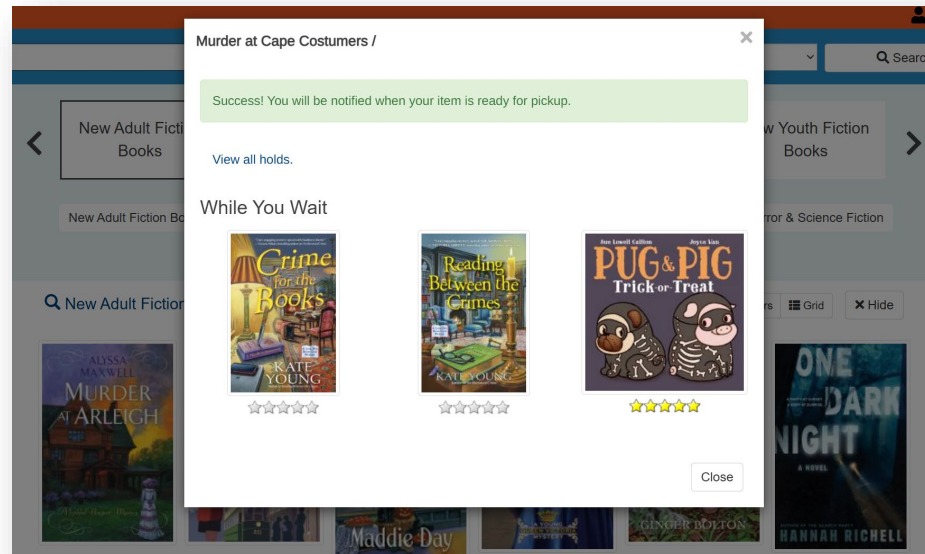
While you wait, You may also like

While you wait appears when you place a hold and in Titles On Hold in My Account

You may also like appears in Checked Out Titles in My Account

Both now just show titles at your library

Series pages in Aspen

Original Series Searching

New Series Searching

New Series Searching – Foreign languages

Boolean Series Searching

Getting to Series Pages

Series Pages

Series descriptions

Volume order

Series Oddities

Fuller name showing (subfield q)

In Catalog series search results

In Series series search results
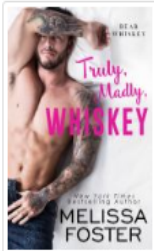
Series Oddities Cont'd

Duplication of series titles

12) **Truly, madly, Whiskey**

Author Foster, Melissa
Series Whiskeys. Dark Knights at Peaceful Harbor volume 2
        Whiskeys. Dark Knights at Peaceful Harbor
Language English

[Book] [Show Edition] Available from another library [Place Hold]
Where is it?

Watch mysteriously sexy Bear Whiskey claw his way to his happily ever after with sassy, rebellious Crystal Moon.

More Info Add to List Group With SHARE

13) **Running on Diesel**

Author Foster, Melissa
Series Whiskeys. Dark Knights at Peaceful Harbor volume 9
        Whiskeys. Dark Knights at Peaceful Harbor
Language English

[Book] [Show Edition] Available from another library [Place Hold]
Where is it?

Desmond "Diesel" Black is a Nomad with the Dark Knights motorcycle club. He protects others with his life and always rides alone. Tracey Kline left the only family she had for a man who broke more than her spirit, leaving her untrusting and on her own. When a twist of fate reveals pieces of the other no one else sees, will they be able to help each other mend their past hurts and learn to trust the chemistry and connection that's too strong...

More Info Add to List Group With SHARE

Broken series images & No holdings

After dark series. Bad boys

Series Cover

Author Foster, Melissa
Audience Adult

The *Bad Boys After Dark* series is a collection of standalone romance novels featuring fiercely loyal, sexy, and often mysterious "bad boy" characters who live life on their own terms. Set against the backdrop of glamorous cities and intriguing worlds like legal offices, security firms, and billionaire lifestyles, each story delves into passionate, emotional journeys as these rugged heroes find love with women who challenge and complement them. The series explores themes of desire, trust, and vulnerability, blending steamy scenes with heartfelt connections. Overall, the *Bad Boys After Dark* series combines sizzling passion with emotional depth, showcasing men who are "bad" in all the right ways and women who challenge and inspire them to find love beyond their walls.

Email Print Sort by ▾

Hide Covers ☐

1) **Bad Boys After Dark: Mick**
Author Foster, Melissa
Volume 1
Earliest Publication Date 2024
The library does not own any copies of this title.

Amanda Jenner is done being a boring man magnet and has finally taken control of her love life. As any smart paralegal would, she's researched the hell out of how to seduce a man. She's waxed, primped, and ready to put her newfound skills into action—and a masquerade bar crawl is the perfect venue for her solo coming-out party. Entertainment attorney Mick Bad lives by two hard and fast rules. He never mixes business with pleasure, and he doesn't...

More Info Add to List

2) **Bad Boys After Dark: Dylan**
Author Foster, Melissa
Volume 2
Earliest Publication Date 2016
The library does not own any copies of this title.

The Bad Billionaires After Dark are a series of stand-alone romances that may also be enjoyed as part of the larger Love in Bloom series."With her wonderful characters and resonating emotions, Melissa Foster is a must-read author!" -NYT Bestseller Julie Kenner"Melissa Foster is synonymous with sexy, swoony, heartfelt romance!" -NYT Bestseller Lauren BlakelyIndulge your inner vixen with these sexy billionaires!Meet

Purchase suggestions

Improvements to save your filters

Check for existing title feature

Requests needing holds feature

- Currently in testing

- Submit a ticket to set up for your library

Year in Review

A "Spotify Wrapped" for your library!

Came out at the end of 2024, and we expect to see more fun things added for 2025.
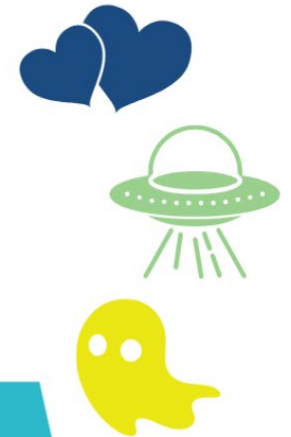
Improvements for Library Staff

- OPAC Administrator users can masquerade as other library staff users
- Expand/collapse admin sidebar
- Save filters
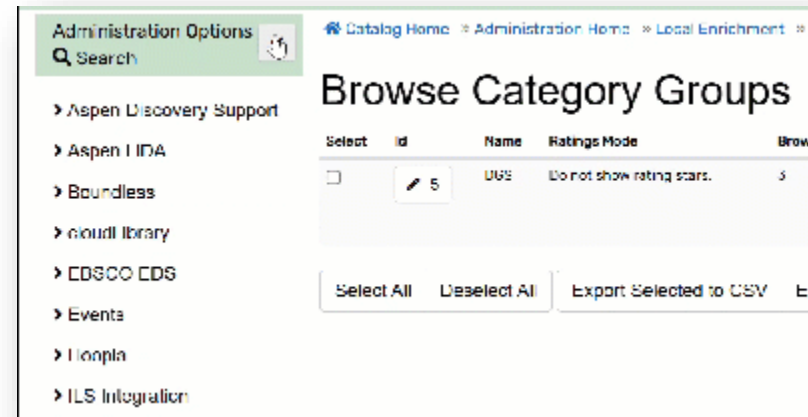
App Header

You can add your logo and a background color in your app.

SWAN Library Services
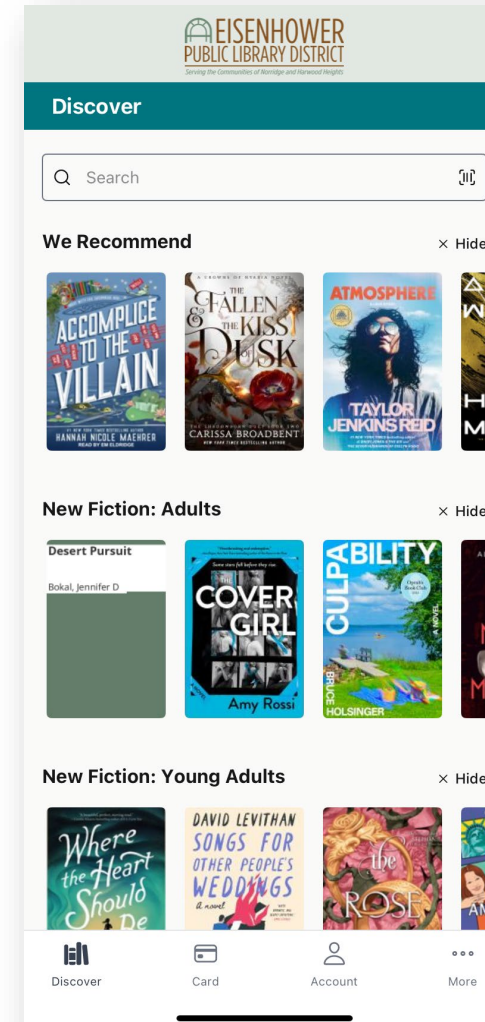
Scan-and-Go (Self check)

Symphony API integration was added in 2025.

This is still in testing, with three libraries piloting, but we expect it will be ready by the end of the year.
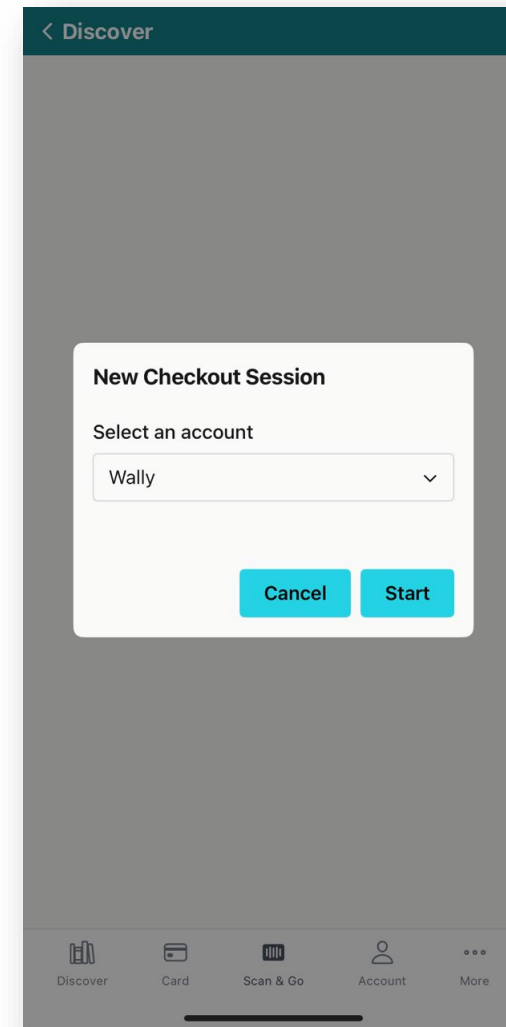
Bug fixes

Aspen Discovery (Web Catalog)

- Fixes for CloudLibrary, Boundless, and OverDrive/Libby

- Accessibility updates for filters

Aspen LiDA (Mobile App)

- Fix for frequent logouts on unstable networks
  - App saves your barcode if you are logged out

- Accessibility fix for large type settings

Stability

SWAN changed hosting and support providers in March 2025.

- Incidents of bots and DDoS attacks is significantly lower
- Continue to deal with bots, but we get a much faster response with little downtime
- Catalog performance is much faster, with more improvements to come

Aspen hacks and customizations

View all of your library's public lists

Helpful for cleaning up lists, seeing lists made in different staff accounts – or seeing what another library is up to!

Do an empty search limited to Lists, and filter.

Add a list description

A nice way to give attribution to staff creating lists, or identify your library's lists more easily.

1) Baseball

Created By   Hinsdale
Number of Titles   21 titles are in this list.
If you have a passion for baseball or are interested in learning more about it. Read these. Diane - Hinsdale Public Library - Adult Services Assistant

More Info   Add to List

2) Start the Series

Created By   Hinsdale
Number of Titles   21 titles are in this list.
Read the first book of these series and keep reading! Lauren - Hinsdale Public Library - Library Assistant

More Info   Add to List

🏠 Catalog Home   » My Account   » Lists   » List

Created on March 17, 2022, 7:12 pm   Last Updated April 7, 2022, 10:14 pm

Title

Start the Series

Description

Read the first book of these series and keep reading! Lauren - Hinsdale Public Library - Library Assistant

Access   Public

Public lists can be shared with other people by copying the URL of the list or using the Email List button when viewing the list.

Show in search results   Yes

If enabled, this list can be found by searching user lists. It must have at least 3 titles to be shown.

Show list author in search results   Yes

If enabled, your name will be displayed as the author of this public list.

Upload custom list cover   Upload List Cover from Computer   Upload List Cover by URL

Update   Cancel

Records Per Page   20 ▾   ☐ Select/Deselect All   Hide Covers ☐

Use preferred name if you have two cards

Two cards with the same name can be confusing in the app and catalog – use the preferred name feature to help you!

Also a helpful tip for patrons with same names in a family (Jr., etc.)

Keep in mind this will appear on notices as well.
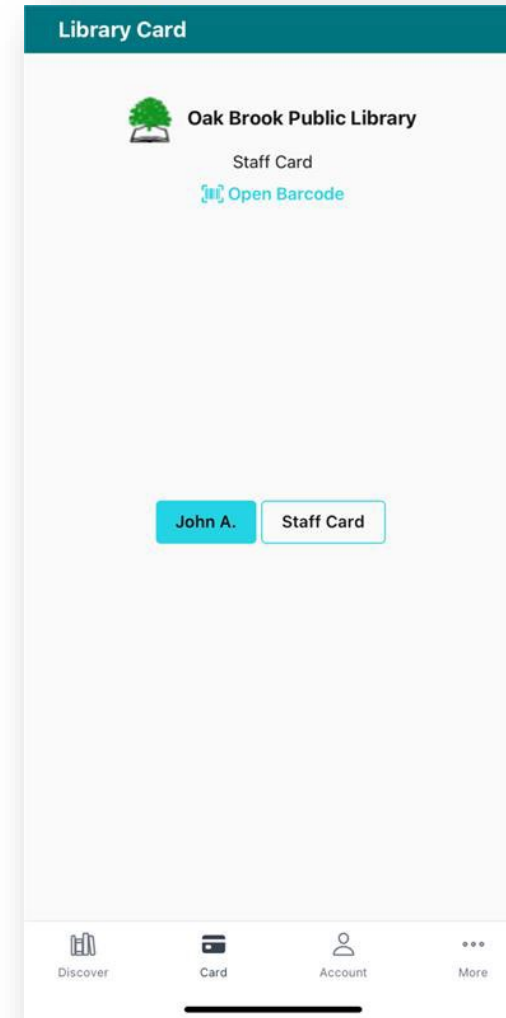
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Integrate your events calendar

Then add it as a browse category!

Q Library Events

For Babies-Preschool   For Children   For Teens   For Adults   For Everyone

Monday August 18	Tuesday September 2	Tuesday September 2	Tuesday September 2	Thursday September 4
Sensory Playtime	New STEAM Kit & Teen Take Out	Baby Storytime	Baby Storytime	Family Storytime with NAMI KDK
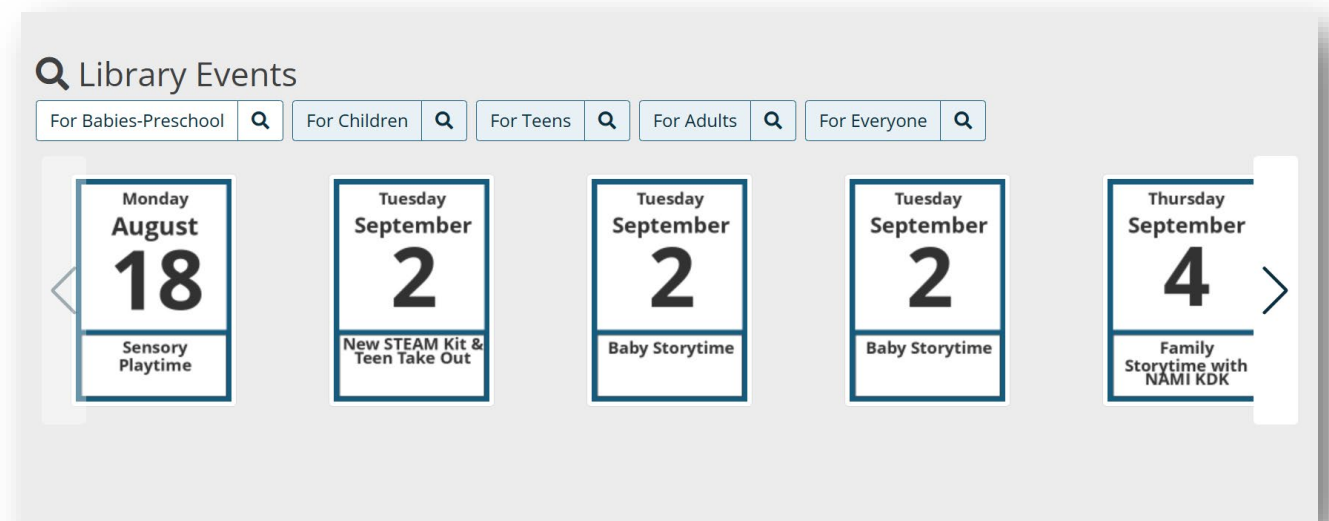
Open a ticket to request events integration!

Add a logo and background to your app

"Logo to show above the screen title in LiDA"

"Header logo background color"

Setting is in Aspen Administration > Themes > Aspen LiDA

SWAN Library Services
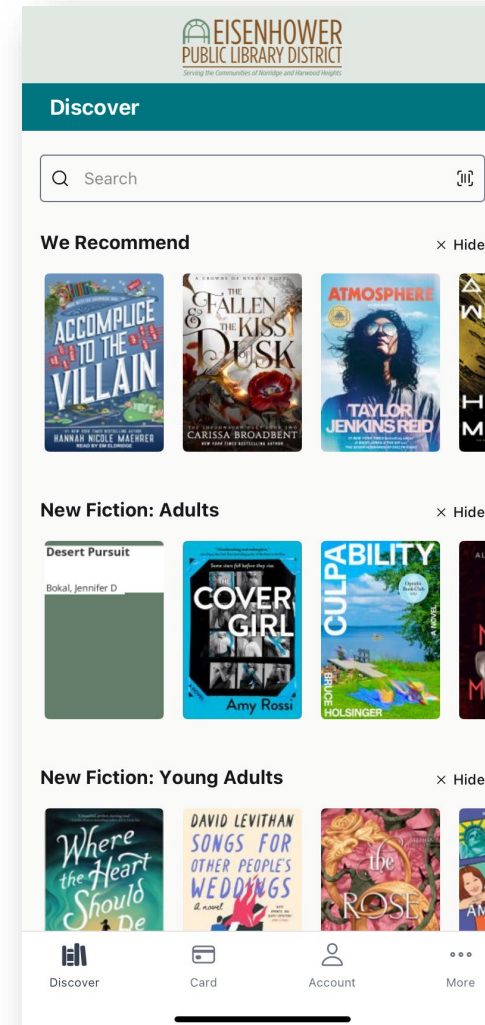
Use the carousel browse category display

"Accessible Layout"

Setting is in Themes > Browse Categories > Use Accessible Layout

It is a tiny checkbox!

SWAN Library Services

Add personalized browse categories

These display in both the catalog and the app!

Your Saved Searches

Your Lists

Recommended for You

SWAN Library Services
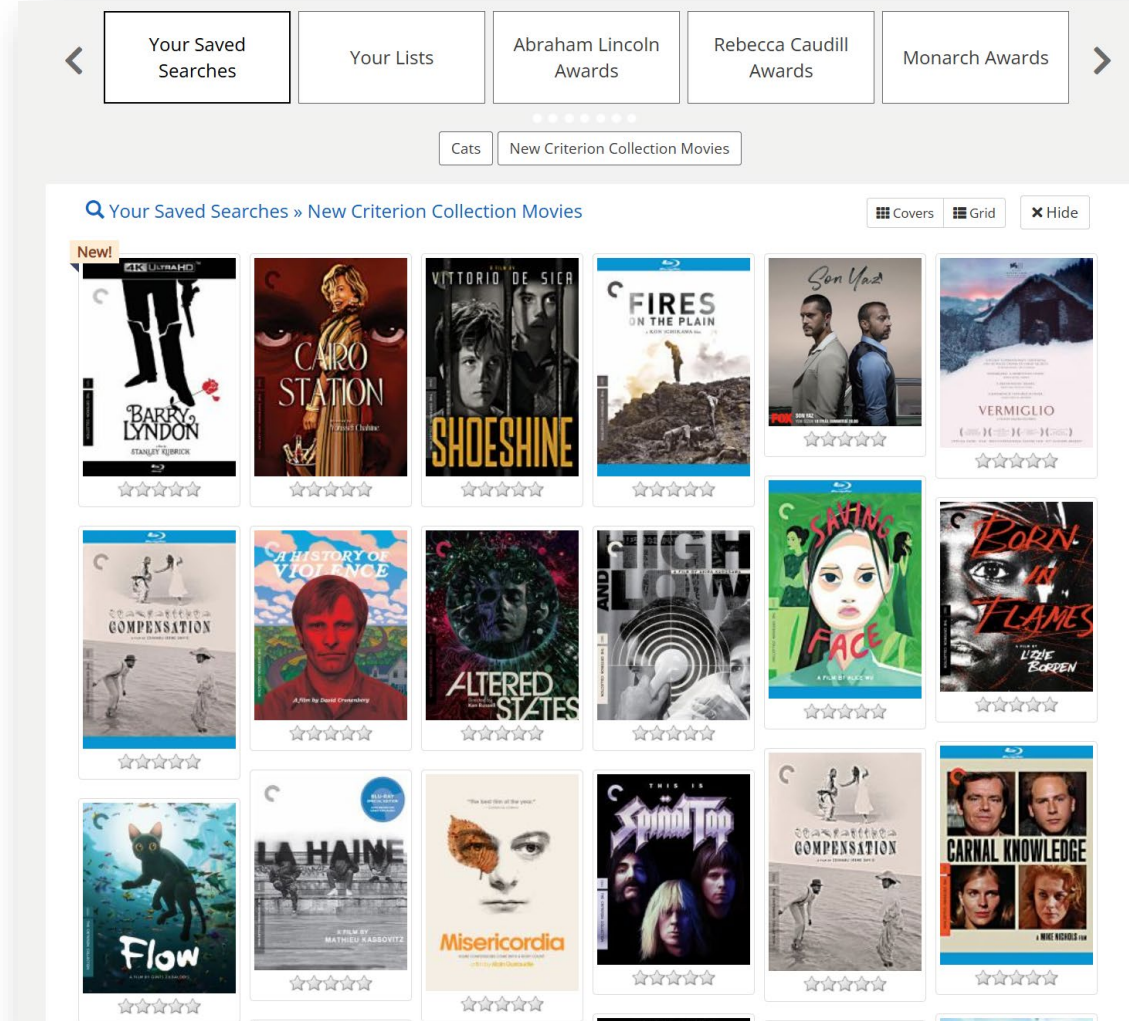
Consider Aspen purchase suggestions

It takes some set up and there's a bit of a learning curve, but it is worth it especially if you get a lot of requests!

- Patrons see purchase suggestions in their account, so they can track them
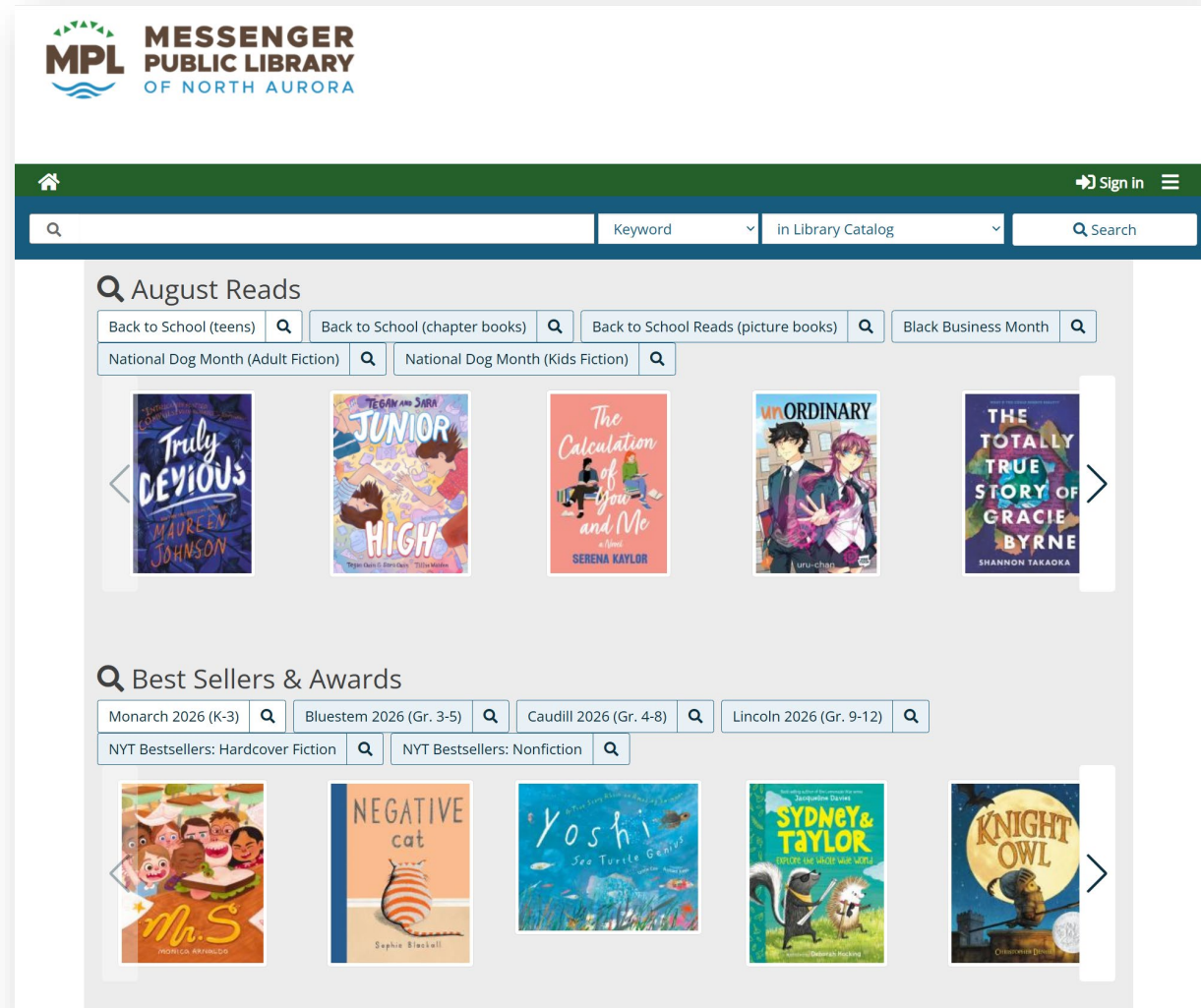- Staff can track suggestions through the Aspen Administration interface
- You can now place holds for purchases
- You can check if a title is already in the catalog
- Aspen will generate handy reports

Open a ticket to request purchase suggestions!

Update your e-commerce vendor

Aspen supports many e-commerce platforms.

It does not support multiple payment options (i.e you have to pick one).

- PayPal
  - Using your own PayPal instance allows you to issue refunds
- SnapPay
- Square
- Stripe
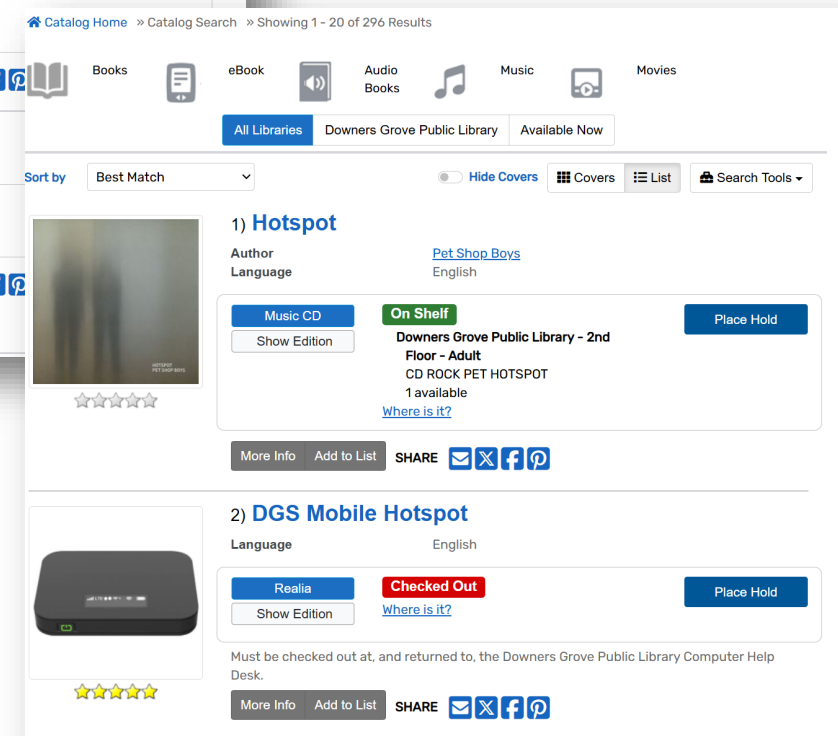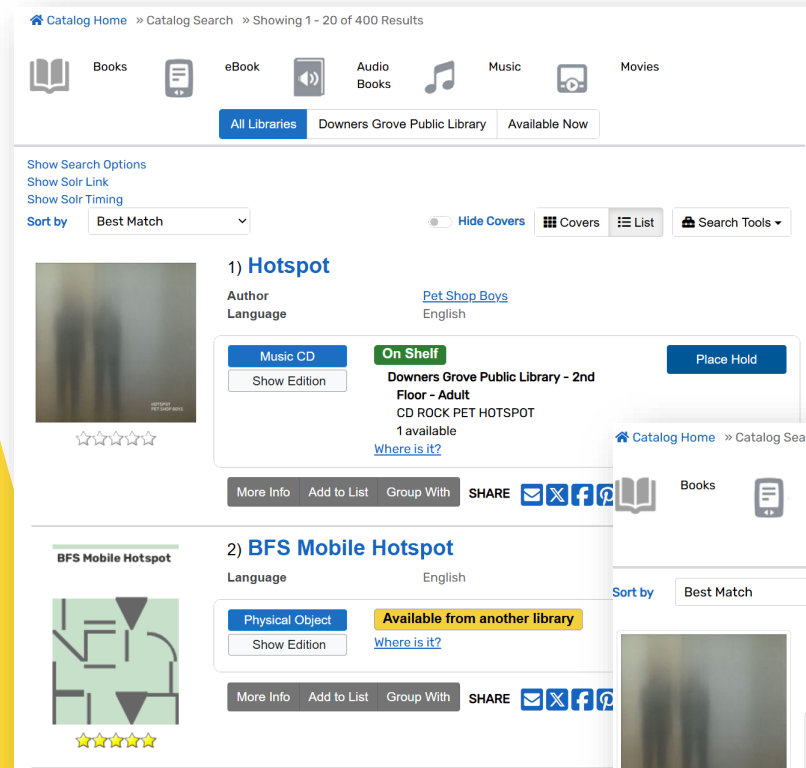- Illinois ePay (in testing)

Open a ticket for questions!

Looking forward

Library of Things in the catalog

Work to limit catalogs to your library's library of things items.

When you search "hotspots" you'll see your library's hotspots at the top of results and you won't see other library's hotspots.
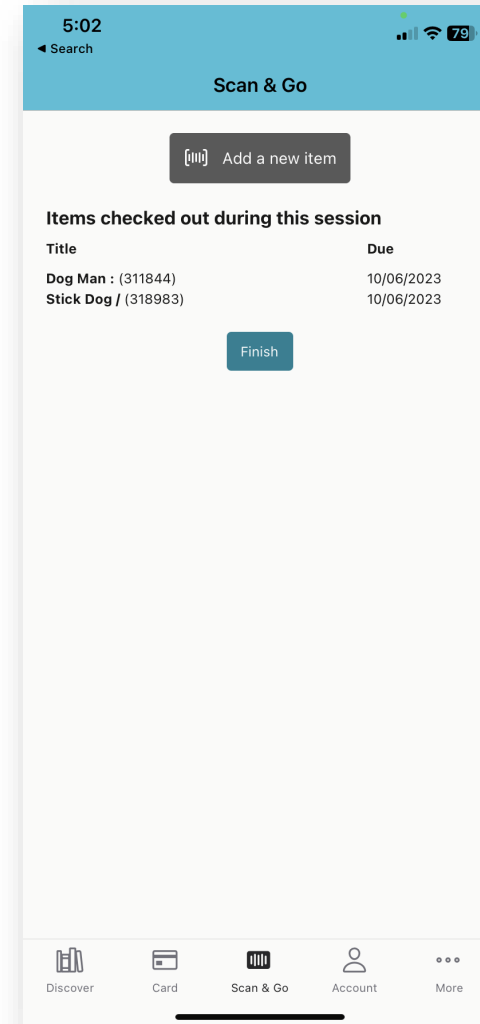
Coming September 30th!

Launch Scan-and-Go

We're very close!

Lansing, Indian Prairie, and Downers Grove have been testing.

Aspen events module

Pilot for interested libraries, anticipated in early 2026

Redesign of the grouped work display
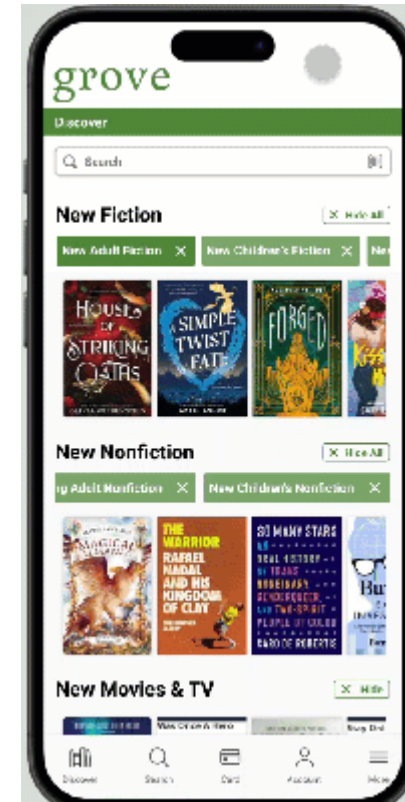
Anticipated in 2025 or early 2026
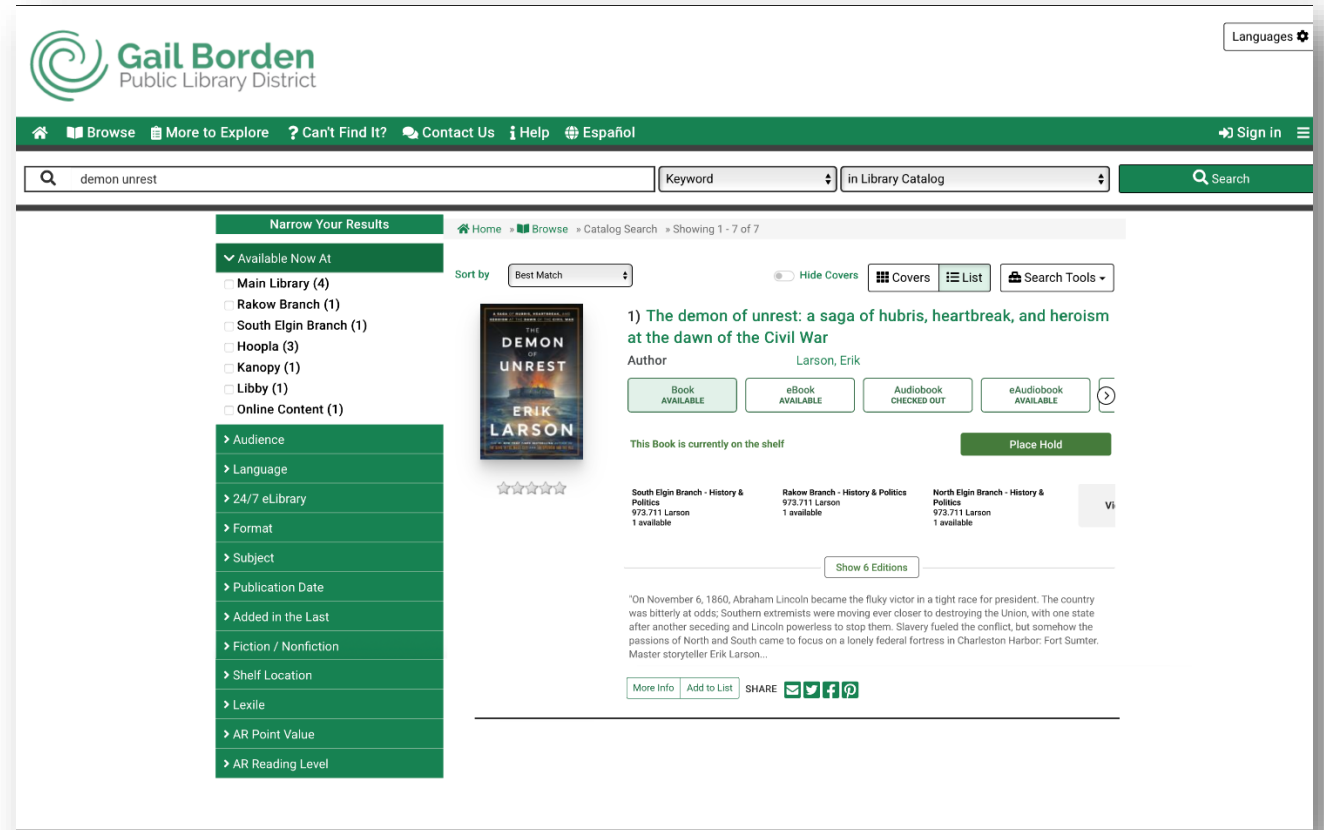
Redesign of LiDA browse category display

Anticipated 2026 – development is looking for funding

SWAN Library Services

Additional options for the LiDA home screen

No anticipated release date

- Currently in the research phase (no mockups yet)
- Goal is to allow libraries to further customize the home screen

Summer reading

Anticipated for Summer 2026

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Push notifications in the app

Anticipated sometime in 2026

Currently works for Koha, Aspen developers are adding additional ILSes.

- Send users a phone alert when they have a hold ready
- Manual alerts are already available in the app (closings, etc.)

We also have our eyes on…

These have no firm timeline yet

- Hoopla Flex integration for consortiums
- Better handling of abridged editions
- Better title/author keyword searches
- Better handling of special characters in a title (#, +)
- Nicer display of full author name
- Ability to group CD + Book with a book
- Improvements to lists, including:
  - Drag-and-drop
  - Additional sorting options
  - Easier printing

Questions?

Open a ticket with help@swanlibraries.net or contact us:

- cynthia@swanlibraries.net
- tara@swanlibraries.net