



Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library

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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library Honored with Star Library and Future-Focused Awards

WHAT: Library Honored with Star Library and Future-Focused Awards

Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library received a Star Library Award, presented by the North Dakota State Library, for going above and beyond with the services they provide to their community. Star Library Awards are given based on a series of criteria documented by the North Dakota Public Library Annual Report, one of several conditions required to qualify for State Aid to Public Library funding. Only three of the eighteen public libraries in the \$150,000+ budget tier received a Star Library Award, including Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library. In 2019, Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library circulated close to 540,000 items; were open to the public 3,692 hours; close to 46,000 patrons attended programs and events; and Wi-Fi and public computers logged 156,000 uses.

Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library also received a Future-Focused Library Award, presented by the North Dakota Library Coordinating Council (NDLCC), for achieving the Future-Focused level for the Standards for Public Libraries. In order to be recognized as Future-Focused, a library must meet all of the standards at Developing, Excelling, and Future-Focused levels. These standards include providing community outreach programs, being supported by a Library Foundation or a Friends group, staff members participating in continuing education opportunities, and providing programming for all ages, including STEAM and coding. Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library is one of three libraries to achieve this level. There are 83 public libraries in North Dakota.

“We are honored to be chosen for these two awards, based in large part on usage of our facility” said Christine Kujawa, Library Director. “They reflect the support we receive from citizens as a result of providing a quality public library for the community.”

Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library was the only library in North Dakota to receive both a Star Library Award and Future-Focused Award.

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