



## **Vita-Learn and Vermont School Library Association (VSLA)**

### **Waiver of Liability and Release of Claims**

#### **COVID-19 SAFETY INFORMATION:**

While participating in the Vita-Learn and VSLA's 2021 Vermont Fest conference, participants must adhere to the guidelines stated in the Duty of Care received in advance of the conference.

Participants are further encouraged to follow CDC guidelines including practicing hand hygiene, "social distancing", and wearing face coverings to reduce the risks of exposure to COVID-19. Because COVID-19 is extremely contagious and is spread mainly from person-to-person contact, the Vermont Fest Duty of Care includes preventative measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19. However, Vita-Learn and VSLA cannot guarantee that Meeting participants, volunteers, partners, or others in attendance will not become infected with COVID-19.

In light of the ongoing spread of COVID-19, individuals who fall within any of the categories below should not engage in the Vermont Fest events. By attending the 2021 Vermont Fest conference, you certify that you do not fall into either of the following categories:

1. Individuals who currently or within the past fourteen (14) days have experienced any symptoms associated with COVID-19, which include fever, cough, and shortness of breath among others;
2. Individuals who believe that they may have been exposed to a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19 or have been diagnosed with COVID-19 and are not yet cleared as non-contagious by state or local public health authorities or the health care team responsible for their treatment.

#### **DUTY TO SELF-MONITOR:**

Participants and volunteers agree to self-monitor for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 (symptoms typically include fever, cough, and shortness of breath) and, contact Jeff Mao, Vita-Learn Executive Director, at 207-798-2460 if a participant experiences symptoms of COVID-19 within 14 days after participating or volunteering at the Meeting.

**LIABILITY WAIVER AND RELEASE OF CLAIMS:**

I acknowledge that I derive personal satisfaction and a benefit by virtue of my participation and/or voluntarism with Vita-Learn and VSLA, and I willingly engage in events associated with the Vermont Fest conference.

**RELEASE AND WAIVER.**

I HEREBY RELEASE, WAIVE AND FOREVER DISCHARGE ANY AND ALL LIABILITY, CLAIMS, AND DEMANDS OF WHATEVER KIND OR NATURE AGAINST VITA-LEARN, VERMONT SCHOOL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION, AND ITS AFFILIATED PARTNERS AND SPONSORS, INCLUDING IN EACH CASE, WITHOUT LIMITATION, THEIR DIRECTORS, OFFICERS, EMPLOYEES, VOLUNTEERS, AND AGENTS (THE “RELEASED PARTIES”), EITHER IN LAW OR IN EQUITY, TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMISSIBLE BY LAW, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO DAMAGES OR LOSSES CAUSED BY THE NEGLIGENCE, FAULT OR CONDUCT OF ANY KIND ON THE PART OF THE RELEASED PARTIES, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO DEATH, BODILY INJURY, ILLNESS, ECONOMIC LOSS OR OUT OF POCKET EXPENSES, OR LOSS OR DAMAGE TO PROPERTY, WHICH I, MY HEIRS, ASSIGNEES, NEXT OF KIN AND/OR LEGALLY APPOINTED OR DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVES, MAY HAVE OR WHICH MAY HEREINAFTER ACCRUE ON MY BEHALF, WHICH ARISE OR MAY HEREAFTER ARISE FROM MY PARTICIPATION WITH THE ACTIVITY.

**ASSUMPTION OF THE RISK.** I acknowledge and understand the following:

1. Participation includes possible exposure to and illness from infectious diseases including but not limited to COVID-19. While particular rules and personal discipline may reduce this risk, the risk of serious illness and death does exist;
2. I knowingly and freely assume all such risks related to illness and infectious diseases, such as COVID-19, even if arising from the negligence or fault of the Released Parties; and
3. I hereby knowingly assume the risk of injury, harm and loss associated with the Meeting, including any injury, harm and loss caused by the negligence, fault or conduct of any kind on the part of the Released Parties.

**MEDICAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND RELEASE.** I acknowledge the health risks associated with the conference, including but not limited to transient dizziness, lightheaded, fainting, nausea, muscle cramping, musculoskeletal injury, joint pains, sprains and strains, heart attack, stroke, or sudden death. I agree that if I experience any of these or any other symptoms during the conference, I will discontinue my participation immediately and seek appropriate medical attention.

**I DO HEREBY RELEASE AND FOREVER DISCHARGE THE RELEASED PARTIES FROM ANY CLAIM WHATSOEVER WHICH ARISES OR MAY HEREAFTER ARISE ON ACCOUNT OF ANY FIRST AID, TREATMENT, OR SERVICE RENDERED IN CONNECTION WITH MY PARTICIPATION IN THE ACTIVITY.**

As a participant, volunteer, or attendee, You recognize that your participation, involvement and/or attendance at any activity or event associated with the Vermont Fest Conference (“Activity”) is voluntary and may result in personal injury (including death) and/or property damage. By attending, observing or participating in the Activity, You acknowledge and assume all risks and dangers associated with your participation and/or attendance at the Activity, and You agree that: (a) Vita-Learn and Vermont School Library Association, (b) the property or site owner of the Activity, and (c) all past, present and future affiliates, successors, assigns, employees, volunteers, vendors, partners, directors, and officers, of such entities (subsections (a) through (c), collectively, the "Released Parties"), will not be responsible for any personal injury (including death), property damage, or other loss suffered as a result of your participation in, attendance at, and/or observation of the Activity, regardless if any such injuries or losses are caused by the negligence of any of the Released Parties (collectively, the "Released Claims"). BY ATTENDING AND/OR PARTICIPATING IN THE ACTIVITY, YOU ARE DEEMED TO HAVE GIVEN A FULL RELEASE OF LIABILITY TO THE RELEASED PARTIES TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW.

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

NAME (printed) \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_