2011 Teen Tech Week - Idaho Events and Ideas

"Ever wondered why a live band sounds so good...or so bad? An expert in sound technology will be demonstrating how to properly set up sound for a band and give a demo. Real equipment. Real instruments. Real music." The above mentioned message was our promotional description for the program that took place here at BWEST on Wednesday, March 9th. A gentleman named Adam (who really was an expert technician) showed/reviewed with teens how various sound equipment works, plus he allowed them to experiment with the equipment hands-on. It was very informative and fun for the teens interested in music/bands.

~Connor Bevis, Library! Cole & Ustick

Offered teens a video-making contest based on the theme "You Are Here" for short films and PSAs. Organized in cooperation with the libraries in the Community Library Network. Contest also piggybacked with the Library Commission's video contest. Awarded cash prizes donated by Friends of the Library. Films were screened and judged on evening of March 5 in a gala at the Coeur d'Alene Library. Top winner earned right to display a traveling trophy at the library of his or her choice.

~David Townsend, Coeur d'Alene Public Library

Our Teen Tech Week was called "Movie Magic". Mr. Andrew Molzan, a machinist who works for Universal Studios came and talked about the way props are made for movies and the technology used. The teens really enjoyed the presentation. He also brought several Harry Potter wands and gave one as a door prize. Our teen tech activity was a little different than electronics, computers and games. We had the opportunity to have a gentleman who works for Universal Studios as a machinist. We called the activity "Movie Magic". He told how they use machines & technology to make props for movies and the rides at the theme park. The Teens really like it.

~Kaylene Christensen, North Bingham County District Library

We had a 2 hour event to show the teens Jaycut and to for them to create a book trailer. We had 2 teens show up (we were a little disappointed) but they took to Jaycut like fish to water. One of the hardest things for them was finding the right picture to use in their trailer. We had a 2 hour event to make the book trailers with our teens. We showed them Jaycut and they had used Windows Movie Maker so they knew what to do! They did create good trailers.

~Amy Mortensen, Twin Falls Public Library
I scheduled three evenings for Feb 24, Mar 3 & 8. The first evening I thought I would get them up to speed on the storyboards and maybe introduce them to Jaycut. They were so good that we also got them registered and they started downloading images. Because I only had 7 teens I did not have them read the same book. I was afraid that I would lose their interest. So I had each one choose a book they liked and we went from there. On March 3rd we did more downloading of images and worked on the transitions and text. This night went just as well as the first one. On March 8th we worked on the audio track. We had problems. Some of the teens was able to download music, some couldn't. So I asked them to return tomorrow night or the next morning. Only two did so. We were able to get the music onto the book trailer for one and not for the other. And even though we didn't get but 1 maybe 2 published, all of the teens had a great time creating. I was the one that needed more training. I'm not a comfortable as the teens were and I needed to know how to make it work when it didn't. I needed to be the troubleshooter. The training that we did get was great but I needed more. I really like this site and want to offer it to the pre-teens and the adults.

~Sharon Kimber, DeMary Memorial Library

This year for Teen Tech Week we decided to incorporate social networking into our project. We set up a Facebook page for the library in the hopes that teens would visit us there and avail themselves of our invitation to check out popular book trailers, our webpage, YALSA and teen ink magazine. We asked them to comment on at least three things and offered pizza certificates for the first ten teen who participated. We still hope that we will be able to do an in house project with the teens incorporating the Jaycut software to create book trailers.

~Lynn Silva and Mandy Martin, Boundary County Library

Monday - Teen Tech Movie, Tuesday - (Outreach) Teen Parent Center (Book Trailer Workshop/Project) Mardi Gras Challenge (In-House). Wednesday - Author Visit (Ken Thomasma). Thursday - Art Project (Book Trailer Project). Friday - Virtual Cafe (Gaming w/snacks). Saturday - Teen Tech Bingo (Played individually with bingo cards that teens mark off according to tech devices/sites that they own/use. Prizes for Bingo and extra prizes for black out.)

~Jeanne Farnworth, Portneuf District Library

We had several meetings together with my teen advisory board before the final night for our Teen Tech Week. We had pizza and ice cream and played games on the wii, plus board games and table tennis. Then we finished up and previewed our book trailers, which was a lot of fun.

For our teens and technology program we basically broke it up into two nights. I had 9 participants, mostly girls with 2 boys. The first night we got together for about 2 hours
and decided which book we would do and then went over the process of Jaycut. Our final night we pulled out the table tennis in the basement of the library, had a great time. We then finished up our book trailers, the kids decided to do boys vs. girls, and then we previewed them. The kids all had a great time and said they wanted to do it again. I also enjoyed this process and hope to do it again.

~Cari Webb, Rigby City Library

We had a "Tech Sports" party with Wii games. We spent 1 1/2 hours playing together. We had another mother come to help chaperone. Some teens brought extra controllers, so we were able to have 4 people playing while the rest nibbled on refreshments. During Teen Tech Week, we were still finishing up our book trailer. The six students got together on Monday afternoon to fine-tune their editing. They spent a couple of hours at one of their homes (using the family's new computer) finishing their voice-over and putting in the final details.

On Thursday, they met with me at the library to upload their creation. Some independent work had been done in the meantime to try to eliminate the evidence of a laugh which was not pleasing to the narrator in the voice-over. One of the students successfully eliminated all traces of the laugh, but there were some fine timing changes with which they were not totally happy. So the students spent some time evaluating the two versions of their production. Once they decided which one to publish, they very quickly submitted to YouTube.

Then on Friday evening we celebrated with a "Tech Sports" party (Wii sports games.) The production team and three other teens met for an hour and a half of games and snacks. One of the mothers came to help chaperone. A neat thing was that one of the boys came on an invitation from a member of our teen book trailer production team. Our production team would like to get together once again to hear what you all had to say about their book trailer. They really enjoyed working on it and will consider doing more this summer.

~Karen Lynch, Community Library Network at Spirit Lake

We had a digital photo contest and a short video contest for teens only. On Friday, 3/11 the library hosted a teen night for the kids to bring in their submissions and the teens got to vote for the winners (1st & 2nd in each category). The pictures were very creative and the videos were hilarious.

~Melissa Mayberry, Weippe Public Library
Our library has not had an established teen program, so this year’s Teens and Tech was a great chance for us to get one started with an awesome activity. We had six kids show up for the book trailer activity. They were eager to get started and learn the process. We split the kids into two groups of three and had them brainstorm for book titles that they had read and had in common. They decided on a book, and selected pictures that would correspond with the story in line. The kids really enjoyed using the software and learning the process. I think that Teen Tech Week was the start of some great new programs with our teens!
~Valerie Bame, Burley Public Library

We were lucky to involve our newly-formed teen advisory group to make book trailers! The six teens were divided into two groups and they went to work making this project their own. My team of 3 had a difficult selecting a book because of their individual reading preferences: one had strictly classic book choices and the other two were popular fiction, this along with technical difficulties chewed into our creation time. However, these teens worked well together finding images and using their creativity. My group dwindled as parents arrived and the project had to end with what work had been accomplished. In spite of the time crunch, our teens had fun, felt the skills were useful for other uses, and want to bring their friends back next time.
~Julie Woodford, Burley Public Library

We made book trailers, that the kids earned extra credit for in their English classes. Once everyone had finished their book trailers we also played on the Wii. For our Teen Tech Week I had the kids do book trailers. Out of the twelve that started I had one finish. I am going to do one of the other activities (as suggested by YALSA) later on in May and hopefully that will go over better. I think it would have been a better time frame. There was a lot to do in very little time.
~Amanda Hatfield, Buhl Public Library

The Saturday before Teen Tech Week, March 5, we held our second annual Teen Film Festival Red Carpet Event. The Community Library Network and the Coeur d' Alene Public Library partnered to bring about this festival. The Red Carpet Event showcased the films that had been entered in the festival. We offered two categories that teens could enter; Short Film and Public Service Announcement, and we had five entries in each category. First, second, and third place in both categories received cash prizes. Our Short Film winning entry also received a traveling trophy that will be showcased at their representative library. Our PSA category winner was sent onto the statewide PSA competition put on by the Idaho Commission for Libraries and the Collaborative Summer Library Program. Films were entered by uploading to a Teen Film Festival YouTube Channel prior to the Red Carpet Event. Local filmmakers were brought in to judge the films for content, videomaking skills, and interpretation of the theme, "You Are
We had 47 attendees at our Red Carpet Event made up of teen filmmakers and their family and friends. There were also many filmmakers that entered films but were unable to attend the festival. Pop, candy, and popcorn were served as snacks and we had a great time!

We had a great time watching the films and are looking forward to more great entries and filmmaking next year! URL for Teen Film Festival: http://www.libraryteenfilmfestival.blogspot.com / URL for the Teen Film Fest YouTube Channel: http://www.youtube.com/user/LibraryFilmFest
~Nick Madsen, Community Library Network at Hayden

We did a pizza party kick off where I showed them some book trailers and introduced them to Jaycut. The second week they were to show their progress. The third and final session was to show their final product.

Teens and Technology at Mountain Home AFB Library was a three week event. It kicked off February 24 with a pizza party for 6 teens. They learned about Jaycut and Creative commons, viewed various book trailers and started creating their own. The second week was to share their progress. Two of the teens had moved away, three of the teens had a church event to go to, which left one of the original group and one new tween. The third and final session was to share their final products. Only one teen showed up. (Two of the teens were still working on their projects and didn't want to come without a finished trailer even though they were encouraged to show up anyway.) However, the one who showed up was very enthusiastic about the whole event and had a finish project to show.
~Bonnie Roos, Mountain Home AFB Library

We had the teens do a scavenger hunt for clues about technology, winner received a gift card. During our event we had teens learn how to use a variety of digital cameras and then we compiled the pictures into a variety of collages.
~Nick Grove, Library! at Collister

The Lewiston City Library held a Teen Tech Week Event on Friday, February 25, 2011, a follow up workshop was also held March 5, 2011. (Due to scheduling conflicts we held event before the actual Teen Tech Week)

The Library was closed to all but teens on Friday evening from 6:00-8:00 pm. It was an extremely cold evening, so we were anticipating a low turnout and were pleased when thirteen teens showed up.

This event was set up in three stations that teens showed up.
Station 1 was FlipCam 101, where teens got a brief lesson on how to use the FlipCam and then were turned loose in the library to make a short video.

Station 2 was Jaycut.com where teens were shown how to make a short book trailer/video on the Jaycut site. Teens worked on the tutorial on Jaycut and within moments they were able to create a short and interesting video clip, all from the sounds, pictures and video on the tutorial. The teens told me they really liked Jaycut and would use it again. The purpose of the Jaycut tutorial was to get teens excited to do a book trailer and also to gain some prior skills leading up to the actual making of the book trailer on March 5. Parent permission slips were sent home, to be brought back signed with parent ok to create the actual Jaycut account.

Station 3 was to play the Wii.

Overall this event was a good and fun way for teens to do something creative, learn some online video productions skills, play a popular teen game and socialize with other teens in a safe and positive environment.

My main objective was met, by just getting teens into the library for a library sponsored teen event. :)

Teens had positive comments about the fun time they had at the library. However, none of the teens present at the February 25 event came to the March 5 Teen and Tech Workshop, where they were going to create the actual book trailer. In the weeks after these events, three homeschooled teens have come back into library to create a book trailer on Jaycut.com. It has been a slow process. One of the three is getting it down, while the other two are stumbling wrap up advent on April 29 in Boise.

It will take a specific highly motivated teen that truly is into video production to want to do this and to get this done. Most teens that come to our events come for fun and social reason. The book trailer was seen much as another homework assignment.

~Debbie Allen, Lewiston City Library

Star Branch Library teens were very excited about Teen Tech Week 2011. We were able to waive over $530.00 in overdue fines on teen library accounts during that week.

Our teen tech week event "Mix and Mash" introduced Animoto and Prezi, two computer programs that teens might not be familiar with. We had 1 teen involved in that program but with great enthusiasm on her part. Star Library will definitely be doing another Teen Tech Week event next year.

~Sarah Thomas, Ada Community Library – Star Branch
For the month of February, on every Tuesday after school, I facilitated a teen program. I started by showing the teens some book trailers, two of which were my choice and were picked to illustrate effective mood, music, etc. Since most of teens had neither heard of them or seen one, they talked about what they liked and didn't like and then explored more book titles on their own. The next week each teen chose a book to make a book trailer for. We also talked about the usefulness of a storyboard outline. The next week I taught them the basics of Jaycut and gave them resources to find pictures, music, and videos through creative commons.org. The third and fourth weeks we continued to work on them. I had one teen out of three complete one and it turned out fantastic. On the Tuesday of TTW, I hosted a wii game night. I bought snacks and rented Just Dance. It all worked out until I realized I had no audio. So the kids played a different Wii game without sound. Nine teens showed up for the special program and four of them had never attended a program before. Success.
~Dani Felt, Meridian Library District – Silverstone Branch

We partnered with a school class and made book trailers. Students enjoyed the activity and the teacher wants to make it a yearly event. 18 students participated. It gave us an opportunity for a partnership with the school and the teens.
~Cloteele Dahle, Larsen-Sant Public Library

Originally we had planned on making a manga trailer for our Teen Tech Week event. However, the teens couldn't decide on just one anime/manga club. That way they could dress up however they wanted and it would be a good tool to post on our Facebook, and to try to get into the video announcements at their schools. The teens spend about 90 minutes taking video, photographs, picking out music, and putting it together. I put the final touches on it the following week. We had a great time, and a great turnout - 9 teens participated.
~Megan Egbert, Meridian Library District

Daily announcements encouraged students to use the libraries' non-print resources for education and recreation, and to recognize that the library is here to help them in any way we can. We surveyed students about their use of technology and discussed the results. We planned two activities: creating book trailers and learning digital scrapbooking.

We viewed many different book trailers and discussed what we liked and disliked concerning the length, formatting, amount of words, general effects and music. Then we brainstormed ideas for book trailers. We learned that we just had to stop "improving" them when we ran out of time!!!

Due to unforeseen circumstances, our digital scrapbooking activity had to be postponed until after Spring Break. But we have two guests coming to the library on March 31 to
help us learn more about using PhotoShop for creating digital scrapbook pages. After showing some examples, the PowerPoint presentation will walk students through simple processes that they will each complete at the computer. Then, they will work individually on their own for their own creation. We'll serve refreshments for sure.

~Shirley Cobble, Wendell High School Library

We had a geek craft night. From our website: "Come celebrate Teen Tech Week by making "Geek" crafts -- crafts inspired by video games and computers. Make a felt version of Angry Birds, a Super Mario Brothers keychain, computer keyboard magnets, or whatever your geeky little heart desires!"

~Debra Touchette, Boise Public Library

This year was an information year. I had meetings in the library to show the 5th graders what kind of technology was out there, had them create a book trailer, and then talked to them about what kinds of things they would like to do. I will pass this information on to the middle school that they will attend next year, and will create a technology club next year for the new 5th graders. They came up with great ideas for projects, and some may be accomplished for their Exhibition projects, which are coming up. This was our first "Tween Tech Week" so most of our time was spent on our book trailer and talking about what they would like to do next year. We will start a tech club for 5th graders at lunch so they can play with new software and create projects throughout the year (1 week isn't enough). When the kids saw what they could do, they couldn't wait to try it. Our kids need to create a project for the 5th grade Exhibition research projects, so many of them would like to try new technology for their presentations. I think this year was a learning year for us.

~Kiersten Kerr, Hayden Meadows Elementary School Library

1. Library aides and book club members made Book Trailers. 2. Showed book trailers in conference room that week. 3. Had students complete a Teen Technology Survey, Internet Safety Quizzes and Text Messaging Quizzes 4. Had a drawing with those participants. 5. Library aides made Social Networking Book Marks. 6. Passed bookmarks out with treats. 7. Took fines off if students came to Library. (took 40 fines off as part of event)

~Lynda Smith, West Side High School Library

We introduced students to book trailers (Feb 23rd) and had a book trailer premier (March 18th) to view the student created trailers. Students walked the red carpet complete with stanchions (poles and velvet ropes) and photographer into the Media Center. We had a popcorn machine and hot tamales in movie themed cups on the tables. Students watched the trailers with the lights out on the flat screen on the wall. Students that were at lunch joined the viewing. I host a Taco Soup and Brownie Sundae
lunch for my staff every February. During the lunch book trailers were playing on TV. This was a way to expose the staff to trailers as the survey conducted earlier showed most were unfamiliar with a book trailer. Also, after attending the Feb 3rd session I sent an email offering the services of myself and Michele to assist classes in creating trailers. The MC notice board also invited anyone to create a trailer. Two 9th grade classes signed up to have their class create trailers. March 18th we held a Trailer Premier in the Media Center. I rented stanchions (ropes/Poles) from Signature Rental rolled out the red carpet, snapped photos, brought the popcorn machine from the lounge, filled the theme cups on the tables with hot tamales. The board says Now Playing...In the Media Center & has the covers of trailers. We premiered 56 trailers - had 23 additional students stop in to watch during their lunch - there are 7 trailers still in production - 5 trailers in the beginning stage from students who attended the premier.
~Penny Kimmet, Taylorview Junior High School Media Center

For this year's activity I taught middle school students how to created book trailers. The original idea was to have the trailers ready for the school's Book Fair the end of March. It was a fun project, but as with all activities, what I thought should have taken a few hours wound up taking weeks. We only had one trailer that was actually finished, but they sure seemed to have fun finding the pictures, deciding on appropriate music, and mostly telling me about the awesome books they liked! The kids are still working on some of them.
~Tina Roehr, Alternative Schools in Meridian School District

My students created the book trailer for Teen Tech Week. Their book trailer will be shown on the student TV show. They used both Jaycut and imovie and decided the imovie was easier and faster. So they made the final product in imovie. They recruited a younger brother to be Matt. He had the time of his life. One of the students will be on the student TV program after spring break telling about her experience and showing the book trailer.
~Pam Doi, Woodland Middle School Library

Every day we had a technology quiz question...first to answer correctly won a prize. One night after school we did claymation and the other night we did WII rock band and Just Dance and let students play games on the computers and make music online. During lunch we had the following activities planned, but some fell through because of scheduling: take a picture with your favorite book, movie day, get wild (look at webcams from zoos), art with computers...maybe next year for those. Lots of kids wanted to do this every week :-) They just weren't thinking about the librarian's sanity.
~Bonnie Speas, Jefferson Middle School Library
We taught students to use Flipcams and Jaycut to create videos to show at the election assembly. Students running for Student Body Office were required to create 2-3 minute campaign videos. The instruction at the workshop and the printed instructions were very helpful to many students.
~Sherrilynn Bair, Snake River School Community Library

At lunch we allowed students to come to the library to learn how to make their own videos using Jaycut.com, Monday through Thursday (Friday was a teacher workday, no students). Tuesday and Wednesday afterschool we set up three Wii stations (Rock Band, Just Dance 2, and Mario Cart) and students who were interested could watch or sign up for a 10 minute session. Students could also use our computer lab to play games on the computer or continue to work on their Jaycut videos.

Overall, we had about 169 students participate over the course of the four days. While the Wii stations by far were the biggest draw, we had a least 69 students come in during their lunch to learn how to use Jaycut. We took pictures after school that we've been showing on our digital picture frame, and many students have said they can't wait until Teen Tech Week next year.
~Gretchen Perkins, Syringa Middle School Library

I started a book club. I had to write a mission statement and purpose and have it approved through the ASB. Took a lot longer than I thought it would. I had 150 students into the library with their English class to create book trailers using Animoto, Movie Maker or Jaycut.
~Sue McLaughlin, Post Falls High School Library