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DATES & DEADLINES

- **Teen Video Challenge** entries are due March 13, 2015. [See details](#)
- Idaho Public Libraries can apply now to participate in **EatPlayGrow**. [Apply here](#).
- **Info to Go: Bright Futures Information Session**, January 12. [See details](#)
- Bright Futures Outreach Opportunities: [Application open January 1 – March 20](#).

WELCOME

By Erica Compton

Welcome to the last edition of The Scoop for 2014. Have a great time reading all about Teen Read Week and learning about new grant opportunities open to your library in this jam-packed issue.

LIBRARY TO LIBRARY

A Book on Every Bed



Give a gift that keeps on giving! The idea is simple and powerful -- choose a new book for each child in your family (and even the adults). Wrap the books and place them at the foot of each child's bed on the eve of a special holiday after children have fallen asleep. When your child wakes up, there is a gift ready to be opened and enjoyed!

This could be a tradition for a winter holiday such as Christmas, Hanukkah, or winter solstice. But it could also be a way to weave books into the important family moments all through the year. Imagine your child waking up to a gift-wrapped book on Valentine's Day, on the first day of school, the day of a music recital, or the day school vacation begins.

"A Book On Every Bed" starts a tradition that could be handed down for generations to come!

[Read more about A Book on Every Bed](#) and find a bookmark you can adapt to help you share the tradition with others. The idea is from Amy Dickinson of "Ask Amy" fame. She encourages librarians, teachers, and other literacy advocates to spread the idea "as far and wide as it will go, making it possible for any family that wants a child to receive a book to get one." To read the entire "Dear Amy" column, visit [The Washington Post online](#). Thanks to the Family Reading Partnership for ideas to pass along to families as well.

Partnerships and Cupcakes

Submitted by Lynn Johnson, District Library Media Specialist at Mountain View School District #244

Family Read Week came and went with our local public library hosting a very busy line-up of activities. Grangeville Centennial Library offered a pajama party, which can be seen on the front page of the local newspaper, as the city police chief reads to a large group of pajama clad children. On Wednesday of Family Read Week, together with our elementary school library staff, our PTA and our PTA Reflections volunteer we hosted a Fall Social for families, and a simple low cost event became a big hit. The fall social worked a little like a school carnival in that there were free games for the students and their parents to play. By playing the games, participants won tickets. From the tickets they turned in, winners were drawn and prizes were awarded. Over a hundred books were given away and the public library also contributed family oriented board games, purchased with grant funds. The Cupcake Walk, using recycled book jackets rather than numbers, was a big hit and a way for participants to win cupcakes and cookies. The booster club generously donated long-dogs for the student body officers to sell as a fund raiser. The evening ended with the Reflections art gallery where students shared the why and how of what they had created. With over 100 children, parents, and grandparents in attendance, the Fall Social celebrating Family Read Week was a fun event that has the possibility of becoming a tradition and a successful partnership between local supporters of education and reading. Want to see photos and descriptions from Family Reading Week events from all over Idaho?



[Continue Reading...](#)

Mustached Display at Boise Public!

Talley Gaskins, library assistant in Youth Services at the Main branch of Boise Public Library, came up with a very creative way to get the attention of patrons. "This November I was inspired by "No Shave November" and "Movember" to create this Mustache Display. It has been a pretty big hit and I have kept busy cutting out multiple little mustaches for the book covers. My supervisor thought you all might get a kick out of this, so I am sharing with Scoop readers."

Love it, Talley! We won't be looking at a *Rodzina* cover the same way again. Thanks for sharing!



Other Exciting News from Idaho Librarians

- **Caldwell Public Library** celebrated the Grand Reopening of their Children's Room and Community Room on October 23. See more in the [Idaho Press article](#).
- The **Idaho Community Foundation (ICF)** provided \$500 to the Boise Public Schools Education Foundation to purchase books for kindergarten students to check out at libraries at every elementary school in the Boise School District. ICF also provided **Middleton Public Library** with \$1,000 to replace books in aging children's collections and the **Nampa Public Library Foundation** received \$500 to purchase Spanish language books and materials for teens for the new Nampa library
- **Wilder Free Library District's** two-year plant facilities levy, costing \$31,500 a year to remodel an old fire station into a library, passed in the November 4, 2014 election, with 375 (57.78%) YES votes and 274 (42.22%) NO votes.

- Long-time youth services librarian **Francine Rudeen** is retiring from the **American Falls Library**. We wish Francine the best and thank her for her passion and commitment to developing young readers!

Lewiston Teen Blogs about Love (of Books)

Submitted by Debbie Allen, Lewiston City Library

Lewiston teen Saraya Flaig is one of 31 teens nationwide writing about books for the October Teen Read Week blogging contest sponsored by the Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA).

Saraya is the daughter of Cassandra and David Flaig of Lewiston. This busy and bubbly young lady is a sophomore and a cheerleader at Lewiston High School and her favorite classes are English and AP European History. Since the age of five she has been a library supporter, begging her mom at this early age for one thing; a library card. She has helped with the Summer Reading Program for the past four years and plans to continue volunteering at the library until she heads off to college.



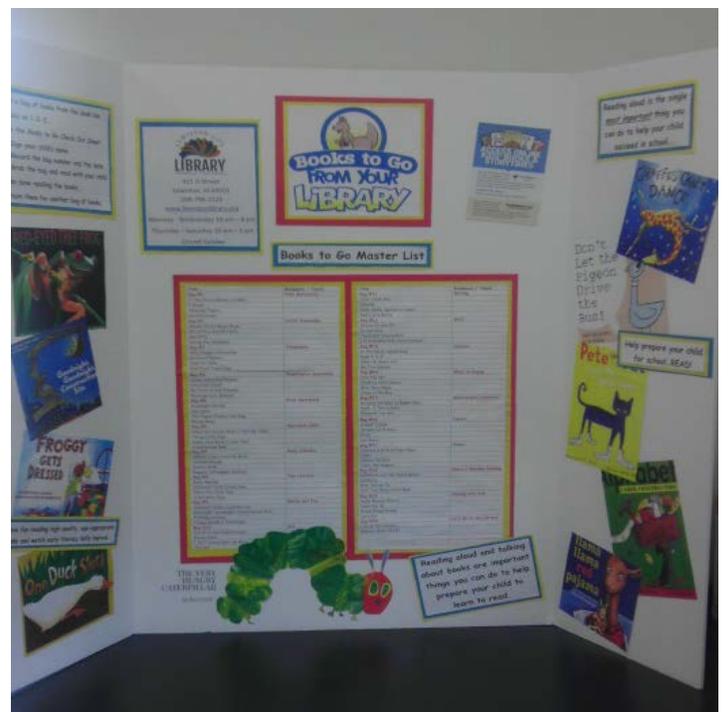
She found out about the contest through Lewiston Library where she is the president of the Teen Advisory Group (TAG). Saraya's blog was published October 26th where she wrote about the shifting popularity of young adult genres. "I really like dystopian books right now," she says and discovered the genre in the seventh grade when her class read *The Maze Runner*.

Saraya's blog is titled "YA Trends Throughout the Years." You can read Saraya's and the other teens' blogs at www.yalsa.org/thehub/category/by-teens-2/. We feel very fortunate to have this amazing sixteen year old representing the Lewiston City Library and teens in our area. Congratulations to Saraya on a job well done.

Books to Go Tips of the Trade

Occasionally we hear about outstanding ways that Books to Go is being used or promoted. We'd like to share a tip with you to inspire your creative juices. Oftentimes the Books to Go tub is placed in an obscure corner or tends to blend in with the surroundings (maybe we should have purchased Hot Pink tubs). Lewiston City Library staff member Debbie Allen has created a way to not only promote the program but also engage kids and parents in the love of reading.

She copies the book covers of books that are in the bins and places them on a display near the bin at the Head Start center she partners with. The teacher reported that



families are really enjoying the book bags. “The children are picking their next books from pictures on the wall and pointing to the pictures of the books they read at home. The wall is quite a conversation piece,” she said. Debbie changes the book covers from time to time so children are exposed to books they may not have read yet.

Thanks for sharing, Debbie! Great idea.

Ada Community Library Mock Caldecott Tea

Ada’s annual Mock Caldecott Tea on December 9 was well-attended by library staff from the three Ada branches, both Meridian Library District branches, Nampa Public, Garden City Public, ICfL, and BSU. Over 70 titles were included in this year’s line-up. The top choice was the wordless book *The Girl and the Bicycle*, by Mark Pett. Runner’s up included *The Right Word: Roget and His Thesaurus*, by Jen Bryant, illustrated by Melissa Sweet, and *Some Bugs*, by Angela DiTerlizzi, illustrated by Brendan Wenzel.



(Top) Monika Pomper and Richard Guinn with top winners.



(Right) Some other favorites: *Louise Loves Art*, by Kelly Light; *My Teacher Is a Monster!* by Peter Brown; *Gravity*, by Jason Chin; BSU’s Stan “The Book Man” Steiner and *Hunters of the Great Forest*, by Dennis Nolan; *Have You Heard the Nesting Bird?* by Rita Gray, illustrated by Kenard Pak; and *Elizabeth, Queen of the Seas*, by Lynne Cox, illustrated by Brian Floca.

YOUNG ADULT CORNER

Teen Read Week Wrap-Up

Let's take a look at what happened across Idaho this October when teens "turned Dreams into Reality" in celebration of Teen Read Week.

- 63 libraries registered to participate and host a TRW event sometime in October
- 30 were Public Libraries
- 33 were School Libraries
- 7 registered as First Time participants in TRW
- 45 registered for the "Turn your Dreams Into Real Books" challenge
- 19 out of 45 libraries completed the requirements for the challenge and earned hardcover books for their libraries.
- 98 teen/student projects were submitted – they were diverse and included Dream Catchers, PPTs, Videos, Book Reports, Photos, Powtoons and more!!
- 93 hardcover books were earned



You can see all of the projects here: <http://libraries.idaho.gov/files/TRW-Projects-Compiled.pdf>

Teen Read Week A Hit in Lewiston



The Lewiston City Libraries Teen Advisory Group voted to hold their Teen Read Week "Mockingjay" party on November 14, as the movie came out one week later. A variety of activities were planned for teens such as Frisbee golf in the stacks and making a Mockingjay pin backed button. Pam Carman of Awards Etc. has graciously lent us her button making machine for each Hunger Games party and the teens are always amazed at how easy it is to make these buttons.

I suggest if other libraries want an easy and cool craft for teens to make, find someone in your area who makes trophies and ask about a button making machine. (The TAG group plans to borrow the machine next fall to make "Banned Book" buttons to wear at school and possibly sell as a fundraiser.)



Learning Lab Publication Describes Transformative Spaces for Teens

Twenty-four Learning Labs in libraries and museums across the country are engaging America's youth in learning settings where they gain skills and follow their passions. A new publication, *Learning Labs in Libraries and Museums: Transformative Spaces for Teens*, describes these innovative teen spaces. The report details the research behind the labs, the practices that support meaningful learning, and the impacts of a movement that grew with support from the Institute of Museum and Library Services and its private partner, the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation.

[Continue Reading...](#)

Idaho Teens Encouraged to Enter Summer Reading Video Challenge



Teens who create a 30 to 90 second video promoting summer reading at the public library, including their interpretation of the 2015 CSLP teen slogan "Unmask!" can win \$150, and their library will receive prizes worth at least \$50 from CSLP and Demco/Upstart. See the full article below in [Summer Reading News](#) or visit <http://libraries.idaho.gov/Teen-Video-Challenge>. Entries are due March 13, 2015.

SCHOOL ZONE

School Librarians Accepted to Lilead Fellowship

Congratulations to Erin Downey, District Librarian at Boise Independent Schools, and to Carole Robinson, District Librarian at Orofino Joint School District on their acceptance to the Lilead Fellowship Program! They are two of only 25 librarians chosen from throughout the nation to participate in the 18-month program.

The Lilead Project is supported by the College of Information Studies at the University of Maryland and the Institute of Museum and Library Services. Lilead's mission states that the program will:

- empower library supervisors to be innovative and creative leaders who think outside the prevailing traditional paradigm;

- enable library supervisors to think deeply, critically, and passionately about the goals and purposes of libraries in school and become forces of change in their districts; and
- equip library supervisors with the tools and skills needed to transform learning and teaching for student success. (<http://lileadproject.org/fellowsmission/>)

We look forward to the big ideas Erin and Carole will bring back to Idaho and learning about the ways Idaho librarians will use those ideas to improve library programs at all grade levels in districts throughout the state. Well done!

Best Practice of the Month: Subject Guides

A subject guide is a set of resources designed to help patrons fully research and explore a topic. Since the patrons of a school library are teachers and students, it is best to keep both audiences in mind when creating one.

In the old days, subject guides were lists of sources on a sheet of paper, but now they are, of course, digital, interactive, and can live on your library's website, on your blog, or on nearly any platform that you and your teachers can access.

Continue Reading...

Get Ready to Celebrate Idaho Day!

You've heard of Pi Day (March 14th) and Star Wars Day (May the 4th), now get ready for Idaho Day and celebrate for the first time on March 4, 2015! Why March 4th? That is the day in 1863 when President Lincoln created Idaho.

To learn more about resources you can use in your classroom to celebrate Idaho Day this March, check out the December issue of [Low Hanging Fruit](#).

December's Nonfiction Book of the Month

<http://libraries.idaho.gov/page/non-fiction-books-month>

UPCOMING EVENTS

Letters About Literature Contest



The Idaho Commission for Libraries is again sponsoring the Letters About Literature writing competition for Idaho. The annual competition is coordinated and funded by the Library of Congress Center for the Book. Students write a personal letter to an author explaining how his or her work changed their perspective on the world. There are three competition levels:

- Level 1: Grades 4–6 Submission deadline date: January 15, 2015 (postmark)
- Level 2: Grades 7 & 8 Submission deadline date: January 15, 2015 (postmark)
- Level 3: Grades 9–12 Submission deadline date: December 15, 2014 (postmark)

For more information about this Idaho Core Standards-aligned contest, see <http://libraries.idaho.gov/lal>.

TIPS AND TOOLS

Bookapalooza

Three libraries will be awarded a full collection of newly published books, videos, audiobooks, and recordings from children's trade publishers to be used in a way that creatively enhances their library service to children and families. The deadline is February 1, 2015; applications open soon!

Continue Reading...

National Arts & Humanities Youth Program Awards Applications Now Open!

The President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities, in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Institute of Museum and Library Services, is accepting applications for the [2015 National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Awards](#).

The 12 award-winning programs this year will each receive \$10,000 and an invitation to accept their award from the President's Committee's Honorary Chairman, First Lady Michelle Obama, at a ceremony at the White House.



After-school and out-of-school time arts and humanities programs are encouraged to apply. Please click the following link to access the online National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Awards Application: www.nahyp.org/how-to-apply/. February 2, 2015 is the application deadline.

Create Your Own Interactive Stories!

Do you remember the fun of creating your own adventure stories? Did you know there is a COOL website where students can create them? Think of the possibilities for this in K-12 education!! www.inklestudios.com/inklewriter/

News from CLEL

Check out CLEL's [new website!](#) While its address and high quality of its content has not changed, its look is all new, thanks to Lisa Dengerink of the Denver Public Library. As always, the CLEL bloggers have been busy adding informative and practical posts to the CLEL blog. Check out the recent posts, which include info on screen time and early literacy, nonsense sounds, the importance of repetition, and more!



ICF Regional Competitive Grant Cycles

Northern Region: Opens Nov. 1, closes Jan. 15. Distribution is scheduled to begin in June. Open to applicants from Benewah, Bonner, Boundary, Clearwater, Idaho, Kootenai, Latah, Lewis, Nez Perce and Shoshone counties.

Eastern Region: Opens Feb. 1, closes April 1. Distribution is scheduled to begin in September. Open to applicants from Bannock, Bear Lake, Bingham, Bonneville, Butte, Caribou, Clark, Custer, Franklin, Fremont, Jefferson, Lemhi, Madison, Oneida, Power and Teton counties.

Southwestern Region: Opens May 1, closes July 1. Distribution is scheduled to begin in December. Open to applicants from Ada, Adams, Blaine, Boise, Camas, Canyon, Cassia, Elmore, Gem, Gooding, Jerome, Lincoln, Minidoka, Owyhee, Payette, Twin Falls, Valley and Washington counties.

[Click here](#) to see a sample Regional Competitive Grant application.

[Click here](#) to see how to apply.

Department of Education Grants and Opportunities

- **December 20, 2014** - The deadline to apply for the 2015 Mini Grants and Classroom Makeover Grants. The grants are designed to boost science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) instruction. Teachers at public and private elementary, middle and high schools are eligible to apply for the grants. Applications are available online.
- **January 2, 2015** - The deadline to apply for up to \$30,000 in grants from the CenturyLink Clarke M. Williams Foundation to fund innovative technology projects. All Pre-K-12 public and private school teachers who teach in a CenturyLink service area are eligible to apply. Interested teachers can learn more and apply online.
- K-12 students across Idaho are invited to participate in the [Idaho Ed Choice Video Contest](#), sponsored by education organizations across the state. Create a short video (up to 90 seconds) showing us what educational choice has meant to you or your family. Entries will be shared on the Idaho Ed Choice Facebook page so others can see and vote for their favorite education choice story. Visit [Idaho Ed Choice](#) on Facebook for more information on the official rules and requirements, entry form, and educational choice in Idaho or email contest@idahocsn.org. The contest is open until **January 5th, 2015**.

Handout for Grandparents Available

ICfL Read to Me Volunteer Jill Call has created a great handout on how grandparents can support literacy development. It is available in English on one side with Spanish on the other, and can be downloaded and printed at <http://libraries.idaho.gov/files/grandparents-read-en-sp.pdf>.

Order Free Winter Reading Logs Now

The Read to Me program has thousands of Winter Reading Logs available to anyone in Idaho. Use the online [ORDER FORM](#) or fax in your order using the [PRINT ORDER FORM](#).



Ezra Jack Keats Foundation

Established by children's book author and illustrator Ezra Jack Keats, the Ezra Jack Keats Foundation is accepting applications to its mini-grants program from public schools and public libraries anywhere in the United States and its territories. The mini-grants program **supports projects that foster creative expression, collaboration, and interaction with a diverse community**. To that end, the program will award grants of up to \$500 to educators interested in creating special activities outside the standard curriculum. Projects funded in the past include murals, pen pal groups, quilts, theater productions, newspapers and other publications, intergenerational activities, and programs that bring disparate communities together. Starting in 2015, the program will also fund activities that support the Common Core Standards. Public schools, public libraries, and preschool Head Start programs are eligible to apply. Private and parochial schools and charter schools are not eligible.

[Continue Reading...](#)

Scaredy Squirrel Fans



Join the  100% germ-free  OFFICIAL Scaredy Squirrel Fan Club and you'll receive a monthly eNewsletter chockfull of news about new Scaredy books, tips from Scaredy, fun activities, exclusive previews and much more. BONUS: Subscribers also receive an exclusive eBirthday Card and great party activities in their birthday month.

SUMMER READING NEWS

Evaluating Your 2015 SRP

Outputs such as circulation, attendance at programs, or number of participants can tell you how much your program was utilized, but those numbers do not tell you how well your program worked.

To track your library's outputs over time, consider using an Excel spreadsheet to keep track of your participation each year. A benefit of Excel is the capability to make instant charts and graphs. **Here is a spreadsheet designed with the outputs requested on the ICfL summer reading report:** <http://libraries.idaho.gov/page/summer-reading-resources>. Note: Due to changes in LSTA reporting, the ICfL reporting requirements for summer reading may change this year. Please stay tuned!

To assess the quality and effectiveness of your program, consider administering formal surveys and/or conducting focus groups. **A sample survey for parents can be found on ICfL's summer reading resource page:** <http://libraries.idaho.gov/page/summer-reading-resources>. This can be customized for your individual library or library system. Chatting with parents or observing behavior is not considered "formal" evaluation.

[Click here to see some sample questions to ask on your survey...](#)

Keep your surveys as simple and convenient as possible. Asking parents to fill out a survey on-site can increase the return rate.

Many libraries are now using online survey tools. A benefit to using an online tool is that most will download and compile the data for you; many even make charts and graphs. [Click here to see some web resources that offer free software.](#)

Be sure to share results with your stakeholders, such as your Board of Trustees, school district/individual schools, Chamber of Commerce, legislators, community (press release).

See a template for End-of-Program Reporting here: <http://libraries.idaho.gov/page/summer-reading-resources>

Remember, if you choose not to evaluate the quality and effectiveness of your SRP, others will (parents, children, school staff). Proactively assessing your program sends the message that you value the needs of your patrons.

New in 2015: Libraries that wish to apply for any Bright Future program this year (School Visits, School Partnerships, Reaching Underserved Children, Little Libraries) will be required to **formally assess** the quality and effectiveness of the library's summer reading program.

Idaho Teens Encouraged to Enter Summer Reading Video Challenge

The Collaborative Summer Library Program (CSLP) and the Idaho Commission for Libraries is seeking videos produced by teenagers to serve as the official CSLP sanctioned summer reading teen videos. The purpose of the teen video contest is to give teens the opportunity to make videos that encourage the use of public libraries and promote reading all summer long.

Teens who create a 30 to 90 second video promoting summer reading at the public library, including their interpretation of the 2015 CSLP teen slogan "Unmask," can win \$150, and their library will receive prizes worth at least \$50 from CSLP and Demco/Upstart. Videos may be created individually or as a team.

The winner will be determined by the creativity, message clarity and relevance, motivation and inspiration, and overall impact of their message. This is a fun and interactive way to get teens and children into the library for summer reading. Participating libraries and teens can find out more information about the contest and how to sign up at <http://libraries.idaho.gov/Teen-Video-Challenge>. The videos and all entry materials need to be sent to the Idaho Commission for Libraries by 5 p.m. on March 13, 2015. Winners will be notified by mid-April and the video will be used statewide and nationally.

If you have any questions about the contest, please contact Stephanie or Erica at the Commission at 1-800-458-3271.



Changes in Bright Futures Outreach Programs: Webinar January 12, noon

ICfL will once again offer several "opt in" outreach programs to supplement libraries' summer reading programs: **School Visits, School Partnerships, Reaching Underserved Children, and Little Libraries**. It has become necessary to collect specific data for LSTA and other reporting purposes and therefore some changes have been made to each of these programs for the 2015 summer reading session. *Changes will affect how libraries collect and track data*, so if you are interested in participating in any of these outreach programs this year please join us for the January "Info to Go" session. Applications for Bright Futures will be open January 1, 2015; however, we recommend you attend this webinar before applying. No registration is required, just log in before 12:00 pm MST:

icfl.adobeconnect.com/ce. This session will also be archived and available on our summer reading page: <http://libraries.idaho.gov/landing/summer-reading>.

2015 Resources from Iowa

Summer library program workshop presenters Rachel Loutsch and Kelly Stern created a website for Iowa's statewide workshops in November. "I think this duo did an awesome job on assembling a combination of resources from the manual (always referenced by page) and other sources," said Iowa State Library Youth Services Consultant Merri Monks. Check it out at <http://rachelloutsch.wix.com/cslp2015>.

News from CSLP

CSLP Partner StarWalk Kids Media is making all 520 eBooks in its collection available free of charge to anyone with Internet access -- children, families and educators -- from December 24, 2014 through January 5, 2015. No passwords, no logins. This is part of a special Holiday Break promotion to become familiar with the product and spread the word. Librarians and educators may download a printable flyer at <http://bit.ly/winterpopflyer>, to send home with children to make families aware of this unique winter break reading opportunity. There are other free promotional assets available at: <http://starwalkkids.com/extras/marketing-materials.html>

Questions can be directed to **Jeff Clark**, StarWalk Kids Media, 516-699-8404 ext. 709, or www.starwalkkids.com.

FEATURED:

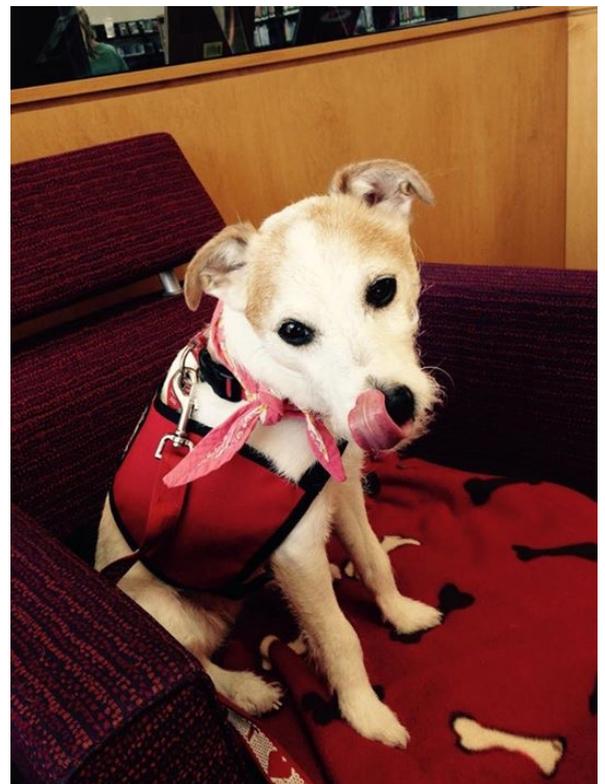
Tips and Ideas for Programs that Feature Therapy Dogs in Reading Programs

By Read to Me AmeriCorp VISTA Shondell Maillo

Library programs that feature children reading to dogs is not a new approach to reading, but it is not something that most readers or instructors think about. Therapy dogs and their trainers have been working with libraries and schools for a few years and have given many children a new love for reading. Reading Buddies give children a chance to read aloud without feeling nervous about whether they will make a mistake. Therapy dogs come into the library or classroom and let the children read aloud to them, usually for 15 to 20 minutes.

Eagle Public Library is offering their "Tales to Tails" program for nearly three years with great success. They have sessions scheduled four to six weeks out and have a waiting list for any last minute cancellations. "Children seem to enjoy reading aloud in a friendly, non-judgmental environment, and we receive many favorable comments about this program," Eagle Public Library youth services staff member Cathy Hardy said. The only challenges that Cathy and her team faced are when a dog and handling team have to cancel. "That can make for some disappointed kids," she cautioned. But overall their program is a big success and everyone seems to love it.

Kuna Public Library has this to say about their program. "Our biggest success is that of the bilingual patrons. A lot of children here come from bilingual homes or are studying Spanish in school and we always have Spanish/ English books for them to read to the dogs. They feel very comfortable with the dogs because dogs do not judge and I think that is why the children respond so well with their reading."



Meet Ginger, a Reading Buddy at Boise Public's Cole and Ustick Branch

Before starting a program with kids reading to dogs there are many things to consider. Some examples of what to think about are:

- **Insurance:** you want to make sure that the dog and handling teams are registered and covered by insurance. That way if an unfortunate circumstance were to arise you wouldn't be footing the bill.
- **Establish program rules:** make sure you communicate the ages of children who are eligible to be in the program. Most programs are geared toward current readers, usually first through fifth grades.
- **Communicate with participants:** most of the handling teams are volunteers, so you want to make sure the participants that have signed up for the classes will actually be showing up. Giving them a call the day before can help you to assure how many people will be attending and can help you to make changes as needed.
- **Area selection:** selecting an area of the library that will be used for Reading Buddies is very important. Children may be anxious about reading and making sure that they have a semi-secluded area to read to their buddy is important. It would be great if they were still able to be seen by others though, so that you can promote your program.
- **Be prepared:** making sure that your handling teams know where to take their dogs to use the bathroom and what to do in case of an emergency.
- **Decide what's best for your patrons:** Do you have patrons with allergies or who are uneasy around dogs? There are some religions or cultures that have different feelings about dogs. This is definitely something to take into consideration before starting a program like this.

After considering this information, you will be sure to have the means to set up a successful Reading Buddies program. Here are some of the libraries in Idaho that currently participate in this type of programs:

- East Bonner County Library District, Sandpoint
- Meridian District Library, Main
- Eagle Public Library
- Kuna Library District
- Latah County District
- Boise Public Library, Cole and Ustick

The November/December 2014 issue of *American Libraries* has a four-page article on using therapy dogs in reading programs. Check it out at www.americanlibrariesmagazine.org.



CE NEWS YOU CAN USE

The Idaho Commission for Libraries has a number of Continuing Education courses available for you. Check out the opportunities here: <http://libraries.idaho.gov/ContinuingEducation>.

MULTICULTURAL CONNECTIONS

Talk Story Mini-Grants



a joint project of the american indian library association and the asian/pacific american librarians association The American Indian Library Association (AILA) and the Asian/Pacific American Librarians Association (APALA) are pleased to announce their continued sponsorship from Toyota Financial Services. Toyota Financial Services will sponsor the *Talk Story: Sharing stories, sharing culture* program by providing funding for the fourth year for mini-grants that will be awarded in early 2015.

Talk Story: Sharing stories, sharing culture (www.talkstorytogether.org) is a literacy program that reaches out to Asian Pacific American (APA) and American Indian/Alaska Native (AIAN) children and their families. The program celebrates and explores their stories through books, oral traditions, and art to provide an interactive, enriching experience. 2014 will be the fifth year that AILA and APALA have partnered on the Talk Story project and allocated grant funding to libraries to implement programs geared towards the APA/AIAN communities. To date, thirty-three Talk Story grants have been awarded.

Applications for the grant can be found on the Talk Story website at: www.talkstorytogether.org/grants.

Deadline: Friday, February 13, 2015

Grant Amount: \$600

Grant Period: May 1, 2015 - November 30, 2015

It's Never Too Early to Plan for Día!

Día Family Book Club Toolkit

The Día Family Book Club Toolkit was created by library professionals to help you successfully implement your own unique program at your library, school, community organization or home!

Download the [free toolkit](#) today! It includes a planning sheet, tips for partnerships, booklists, best practices, a sample agenda, and more.

Do you have plans for a Día Celebration in 2015? Send us your ideas so we can share them widely!

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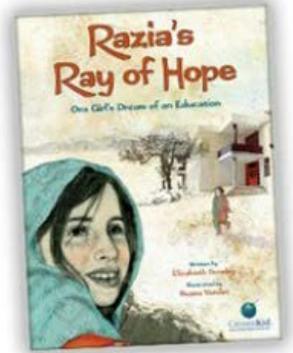
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MIDDLE EAST OUTREACH COUNCIL ANNOUNCES 2014 MIDDLE EAST BOOK AWARDS

The Middle East Outreach Council (MEOC) has announced the recipients of its 2014 Middle East Book Awards in Picture Book, Youth Literature, and Youth Non-Fiction categories. Winners were announced at the MEOC Annual Business Meeting at the Middle East Studies Association Conference held in Washington, DC, on November 22, 2014.

PICTURE BOOK AWARD

Razia's Ray of Hope: One Girl's Dream of Education, by Elizabeth Suneby, illustrated by Suana Verelst, Kids Can Press, 2013.



[Continue Reading...](#)

KNOW THE NUMBERS

Girls vs. Boys - How Do Their Reading Habits Differ?

Accelerated Reading Quizzes have been used in classrooms over the last 30 years. There are currently more than 167,000 quizzes, with nearly half focused on nonfiction/informational texts. A report based on Accelerated Reading records for more than 9.8 million students in grades 1–12 during the 2013–2014 school year reveals data about reading habits and skill acquisition. The students were from 31,633 schools, in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

Data was gathered by grade and gender to see how much independent book reading practice American students do. These are the results:

- On average, students read the most books in grades 2 and 3 (about 57 and 51 per year, respectively), and the fewest in grades 11 and 12 (about 5 per year).
- The average number of words students read in books per year begins at about 25,000 in grade 1, rises each year until its peak at about 436,000 in grade 6, and then decreases to the low 300,000s by the end of high school.
- On average, girls read 761,000 more words than boys by the time they finish high school. Girls encounter nearly 3.8 million words between grades 1–12—about 25% more than boys, who encounter just over 3 million.

http://educationbythenumbers.org/content/lessons-mining-data-childrens-reading-habits_2393/

Jumpstart's Read for the Record Results

This year 2,383,645 people around the globe came together to celebrate literacy and to talk about the importance of high-quality early education. While they fell just short of their goal, Jumpstart still holds the world record for the largest reading experience... and they set some additional records this year. Check out some of the highlights below, as well as on jstart.org:

- 600,000 people read *Bunny Cakes* online
- 37 mayors and 5 governors officially declared October 21, 2014 "Jumpstart's Read for the Record" Day
- Largest global reach yet - included readers in Antarctica, South Korea, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, Japan, Israel, Canada, and Brazil.

STEAM IS EVERYWHERE

Building Young Makers – Resources for Early Childhood Caregivers

~by Erica Compton

I was fortunate to lead a hands-on session at the Early Years conference called "Building Young Makers." 120 early childhood care providers joined me and explored making activities for kids four to eight years of age. In support of the workshop I created a wealth of information for you to check out including:

- Background information on the maker movement
- Non-fiction booklists
- Activity ideas for a variety of making tools such as:
 - Squishy Circuits
 - Robotics
 - Construction and Building materials
 - MaKey MaKey
 - and many more!

Find it all here: <http://libraries.idaho.gov/page/presentations>

Favorite Apps for Kids

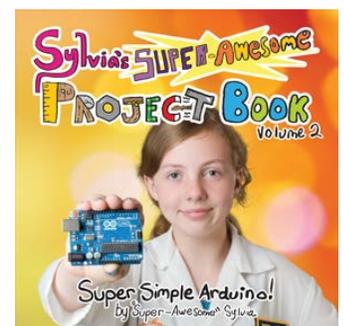
Provided through alsclisterv by Kimberly Castle-Alberts, Children's/YA Librarian
Hudson Library & Historical Society

- Here's the compilation of responses: <http://bit.ly/1s0Ekyr>
- Here's the list my library ended up with: <http://bit.ly/1x1nCqk>

And don't forget about [Little eLit](#) - a crowd-sourced, grass-roots professional learning network that works to develop promising practices for the incorporation of new media into library collections, services and programs for families with young children.

Sylvia's Super-Awesome Book Released!

"Super-Awesome" Sylvia started making and tinkering when she was seven, and loves to try new things. One year after visiting a nearby Maker Faire, she and her dad were inspired to create a Web show about making things modestly titled, "[Sylvia's Super-Awesome Maker Show](#)" where she shows kids and adults that making things can be fun, easy and more rewarding than just buying something. Millions of views later, Sylvia has covered everything from hobby rocketry to sewable soft circuits. The show garnered



attention from parents and educators the world over. Learners of all ages report that the show inspires them to make things and learn lots along the way. She is a girl scout and has three younger siblings. Sylvia was profiled on network news, People Magazine, and in the New York Times.

In 2014, Sylvia became an author by launching a series of full-color children's books, "Sylvia's Super-Awesome Project Books," published by [Constructing Modern Knowledge Press](#).

BOOK LOOK

NPR Offers Book Concierge Site

NPR has a new site called Book Concierge. It is nicely laid out and easy to use to find great books! Check it out at http://apps.npr.org/best-books-2014/#/_.

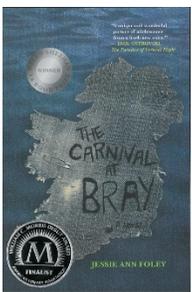
Youth Media Awards – Save the Date!

The 2015 Youth Media Award announcements will take place during the ALA Midwinter Meeting & Exhibition on Monday, Feb. 2, 2015, at 8 a.m. CT from McCormick Place West in Chicago. For press releases please visit the Youth Media Awards [press kit](#).

The [ALA Youth Media Awards](#) honor children's and young adult authors and illustrators, as well as producers of children's audio and video materials. These include the Newbery, Caldecott, Printz, King, Batchelder, Belpre, Carnegie, Geisel, Odyssey, and Sibert awards and more.



Morris Award 2015 Finalists



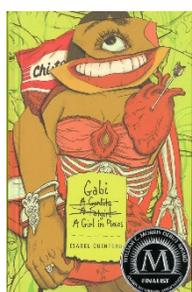
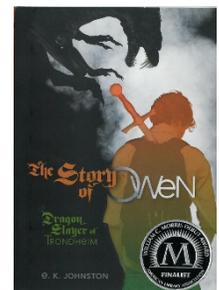
The Carnival at Bray written by Jessie Ann Foley, published by Elephant Rock Books.

In 1993, the grunge movement is at its height and Maggie Lynch is living comfortably in Chicago, near Nanny Ei and Uncle Kevin, her musical gurus. After her impulsive mother marries and moves the family to a tiny Irish village, Maggie struggles to adjust to the changing world around her.

The Story of Owen: Dragon Slayer of Trondheim written by E.K. Johnston, published by Carolrhoda Lab™, an imprint of Carolrhoda Books, a division of

Lerner Publishing Group.

Owen is training to be a dragon slayer, a crucial job in a world where dragons bring death and destruction. With help from their friends and family, Owen and his bard Siobhan seek the source of a growing dragon threat.

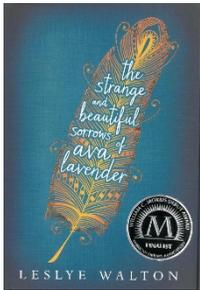
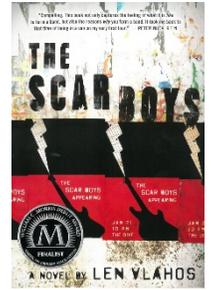


Gabi, a Girl in Pieces written by Isabel Quintero, published by Cinco Puntos Press.

Aspiring poet Gabi Hernandez is having a complicated senior year: One of her best friends is pregnant, and the other just came out. Even as her mother worries that she will become a "bad" girl, Gabi adds romance and the quest for college to her already full plate.

The Scar Boys written by Len Vlahos, published by Egmont Publishing.

In a college admission essay, Harry Jones reveals the physical and psychological scars of his childhood and the solace and self-confidence he found in friendship and punk music.

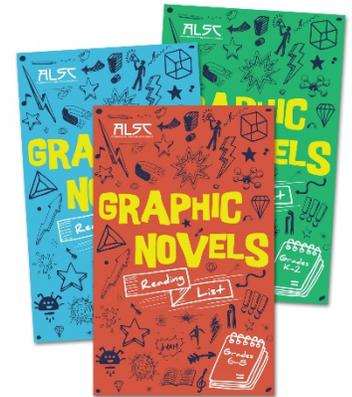


The Strange and Beautiful Sorrows of Ava Lavender written by Leslye Walton, published by Candlewick Press.

Born with a pair of wings, sixteen-year-old Ava Lavender inherits a rich family history and a legacy of heartbreak. After a young man becomes convinced she is an angel, can Ava survive his obsession intact?

ALSC announces new Graphic Novels Reading Lists

ALSC has released three new [Graphic Novel Reading Lists](#) intended for children from kindergarten through 8th grade. Three Graphic Novel Reading Lists are available for children in kindergarten to 2nd grade, 3rd to 5th grade and 6th to 8th grade. PDFs of the book lists are available online **in full color and black and white** and are free to download, copy and distribute. The titles were selected, compiled and annotated by members of the ALSC Quicklists Consulting Committee.



Best Books of 2014 and Book Gift Ideas

Check out these great sites:

- The *Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books* produces an annual *Guide Book to Gift Books* every November. You can find the 2014 edition here: <http://bccb.lis.illinois.edu/GB2/2014GB2.html>
- School Library Journal's Best Books of 2014 <http://www.slj.com/best-books-2014/>

Talk Back: We welcome your feedback on anything in *The Scoop*. Just email [Stephanie](#), [Staci](#), or [Erica](#) and we'll print your comments in *The Scoop*.

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