

THE Nexus

October - December 2016



ICfL's Budget Enhancement Requests for FY2018

The Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) submitted two budget enhancement requests (for new funding) to the State of Idaho Division of Financial Management for fiscal year (FY) 2018, which runs July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018.

One enhancement request concerns the Talking Book Service (TBS), which brings the wide world of reading to those Idahoans who are blind or physically incapable of holding a book.

In FY2010, when faced with significant budget cuts, the ICfL chose to continue the TBS by moving it from state to federal funds -- where it has remained.

This component of the FY2018 enhancement request (phased in over a two-year period) would restore state funding of \$187,200, and redirect federal funds toward the growth and development of other ICfL initiatives, such as Read to Me and Libraries Linking Idaho (LiLI).

This enhancement request would also facilitate even greater execution of the state's goals of reading proficiency, college and career readiness, and strengthening the talent pipeline.

The ICfL's other enhancement request supports the emerging technologies and maker initiatives, through which a myriad of people, working in a variety of disciplines, come together and shift the focus of learning from theory to practice.

This component of the FY2018 budget enhancement request is for \$119,700 of new funding for operational expenses and the addition of one full-time staff member to support maker, STEAM (STEM+Art), and emerging technology-based programming in a more focused way, throughout the state.

It would allow for the expansion of the maker program to small / rural public, academic, and school libraries, statewide, and give libraries increased options to better meet their distinct community needs.

There would also be a more cost-effective, regional training model.

"As libraries have always helped people explore ideas -- whether through books, computing and Internet access, and now, also as places for hands-on learning, problem-solving, and innovation -- the library continues to evolve to not only meet, but exceed, the needs of its community," said State Librarian, Ann Joslin.



State Librarian, Ann Joslin

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For a fact sheet on the FY2018 budget enhancement requests, visit:

<http://libraries.idaho.gov/doc/fy2018-budget-enhancement-requests-fact-sheet>.

**Idaho Commission
for Libraries (ICfL)**

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Mission:

The Idaho Commission for Libraries assists libraries to build the capacity to better serve their communities.

Commissioners:

Mark Alldredge, John Held,
Dave Mecham, Pat Raffee,
and Janet Franklin.

State Librarian:

Ann Joslin

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- Kristina Taylor, grants/contracts officer
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- Patrick Bodily, eastern Idaho library consultant
- Roger Dubois, administrative services manager
- Shirley Biladeau, continuing education consultant
- Staci Shaw, reading programs coordinator
- Stephanie Bailey-White, deputy state librarian
- Sue Walker, Talking Book Service consultant
- Tammy Hawley-House, project coordinator

Tax Credits for Contributions to Public Libraries

Individuals and corporations that contribute to libraries are eligible for tax savings. Idaho Code section [63-3029A](#) allows individuals or corporations to take a tax credit for monetary charitable contributions made to public libraries, library districts, and the Idaho Commission for Libraries.

An individual taxpayer's contribution to a public library is allowed as an itemized deduction on the federal return and on the Idaho state return. In addition, the taxpayer receives an Idaho tax credit for the contribution. The credit is limited to the smallest of one-half of the amount contributed, 50 percent of the individual's income tax, or \$500 (\$1,000 on a joint return).

This credit is also available to Idaho corporations that make a monetary charitable contribution to a public library or library district located in Idaho, or to the Idaho Commission for Libraries. For corporations, the credit is limited to the smallest of one-half of the amount contributed, 10 percent of the corporation's income tax, or \$5,000.

For a flyer to help you advertise this tax credit, please follow this link to the "2016 Updated Public Library Tax Credit" flyer:

<http://libraries.idaho.gov/page/public-library-contribution-tax-credit>.

Donations of goods or services do not qualify.

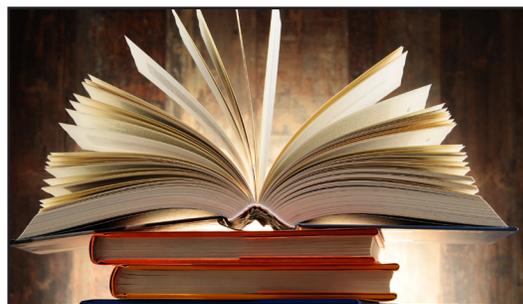
**This is an excellent opportunity to promote
end-of-year donations to your library.**

For more information, please contact the Idaho Commission for Libraries at:

325 W. State Street, Boise, Idaho 83702
(208) 334-2150 (Main / Southwestern Field Office)

1420 S. Blain Street, Suite B, Moscow, Idaho 83843
(208) 882-8882 (Northern Idaho Field Office)

1820 E. 17th Street, Suite 130, Idaho Falls, Idaho 83404
(208) 525-7211 (Eastern Idaho Field Office)



The Nexus is available as an e-newsletter and as a PDF. To subscribe, go to:
<http://libraries.idaho.gov/node/9173>.

The **Annual Statistics Report** for FY2016 is **due** by **January 1, 2017**, according to Idaho Code. Log onto: <http://collect.btol.com>.

If you do not have your log-in information and/or your password, please contact Patrick Bodily at (208) 525-7211 or at patrick.bodily@libraries.idaho.gov.

Please have your signature form signed by your Board Chairman and mail to Patrick Bodily at:
Idaho Commission for Libraries
1820 E. 17th Street, Suite 130 • Idaho Falls, ID 83404

2017 Public Library Directors' Summit

The second-annual Public Library Directors' Summit is scheduled for **March 2 and 3, 2017** at the Red Lion Down-towner in Boise, Idaho. The online registration will be coming out soon. Phil Eastman, of the Leadership Advisors Group, will be the event facilitator. Topics will include communication, leadership, and working boards, plus there will be time for networking, sharing and problem-solving. We hope trustees will encourage their directors to attend.

Idaho Day 2017

Idaho Day is **March 4, 2017**. It was established to commemorate the creation of the Idaho Territory by President Abraham Lincoln on that day in 1863. To help celebrate, the Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) is offering a **book read** for **public libraries**.

Public libraries may request a loan of multiple copies of an Idaho-themed book to read and discuss. The theme for this year's Idaho Day is "Idaho the Beautiful." Here is a list of the available titles and information about them, http://libraries.idaho.gov/files/ID%20DAY%20BOOK%20LIST_2.pdf.



To **apply**, please complete the online application, <https://form.jotform.com/icfl/idaho-day-book-read-application>. The deadline is **January 10, 2017**. Books will be disseminated on a first-come, first-served basis. The ICfL will cover the cost of shipping the books to your library.

Please visit the ICfL's website, <http://libraries.idaho.gov/page/idaho-day-book-read>, for more information, including such documents as a tip sheet, customizable flyer, and the feedback form.

2017 Events for Trustees!

The Idaho Commission for Libraries will host regional sessions of "Trustee Connections," the week of **August 7 - 11, 2017**. Be sure to mark your calendar for the session near you! The sessions will include both public library directors and trustees, and focus on community engagement, roles, and the future of libraries.

August 7, 2017	---	Coeur d'Alene Public Library
August 9, 2017	---	Middleton Public Library, Middleton, ID (Treasure Valley)
August 10, 2017	---	Twin Falls Public Library
August 11, 2017	---	Madison Library District, Rexburg, ID

E-rate

It is time to start the E-rate process for 2017-2018, for the E-rate year that begins June 30, 2017.

You will need to start on the form for 2017-2018, even if you have not yet finished up with reimbursements for 2015-2016 (for the E-rate year that ended on June 30, 2015) or with Form 486 for 2016-2017 (for the E-rate year that started on July 1, 2016).

You will need to do Form 470, unless you have a contract that ends on or after June 30, 2018. If you have a contract and want to consider upgrading or renegotiating, you will need to do Form 470, also. And, if you have a month-to-month service, you will have to complete Form 470.

Remember, there are now two categories:

Category 1 for voice and Internet/data

Category 2 for internal connections, basic maintenance of internal connections and managed internal broadband services



In case you are new to the world of E-rate, it is the name commonly given to the program that provides discounts to assist schools and libraries in obtaining affordable telecommunications and Internet access. It is administered by the Universal Service Administrative Company under the direction of the Federal Communications Commission.

Through the E-rate program, a library's Internet costs may be reimbursed. It also allows for a lower cost, overall, and faster speeds. For example, last year, participating Idaho libraries' average cost per megabit was \$34, and this year, their average cost is \$12.20. Plus, we have seen many libraries jump to speeds of 100 megabits per second (mbps), from speeds of 20 or 60 mbps.

Once you have applied for E-rate, you become eligible for additional reimbursements from the State of Idaho's Educational Opportunity Resource (EOR) fund. This program may reimburse your library for the non-E-rate portion of your Internet, potentially bring your Internet cost to \$0.

For assistance and/or information about E-rate, please contact the ICfL's Northern Idaho Library Consultant, Jan Wall, at 208-882-8882 or via email at: jan.wall@libraries.idaho.gov. For more information, visit: <http://www.usac.org/sl/default.aspx>.

Big Read Grant Program Available

The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) has announced a grant program, called Big Read.

The Big Read is a month-long series of programs centered around one NEA Big Read title. Programs should include a kickoff, a keynote, book discussions, and other artistic events to foster engagement with the selected title and encourage reading.

NEA Big Read is accepting applications from non-profit organizations to develop community-wide reading programs between September 2017 and June 2018. The application deadline is **January 26, 2017**.

Grants range from \$5,000 to \$20,000. Grantees are provided with resources, outreach materials, and training on various topics, such as working with local partners, developing public relations strategies, and leading book discussions and Q&As.

Guidelines are available here: <http://neabigread.org/guidelines.php>. And to view a webinar about the application process, visit: <https://www.arts.gov/video/nea-big-read-november-2016-webinar>.

Support Available for Public Libraries' Volunteer Programs

Would you like to get more volunteers to help in your library? And would you like them to be highly skilled with expertise in areas like marketing, fundraising, and succession planning? Well, you can make that Christmas wish come true -- and you don't even have to write a letter to Santa.

The ICfL is partnering in the "Get Involved Collaborative: A Multi-State Approach to Increasing Volunteer Engagement."

This is a three-year grant that will help participating libraries develop successful volunteer management programs, as well as provide full access to "VolunteerMatch," which is the premier online volunteer recruitment tool for non-profit organizations.

This three-year continuing education initiative will change the perception of the use of volunteers, improve volunteer engagement practices, and teach new methods to recruit skilled volunteers.

Certainly, skilled volunteers are a valuable resource for libraries, especially those lacking in financial and/or human resources.

The selection of participants for the first year of the project will begin in **February of 2017**. For those selected, all training and access to VolunteerMatch will be paid.



For more information, please contact the ICfL's Library Consultant, Sue Walker, at 208-334-2150 or via email at: sue.walker@libraries.idaho.gov.

Letters About Literature

The final deadline for the 2017 Letters About Literature contest is fast approaching. For Grades 4-6 and Grades 7-9, the entry deadline is January 9, 2017. (The deadline for Grades 9-12 was December 2, 2016.)

Letters About Literature is a reading and writing contest for students who are asked to read a book, poem, or speech and write to the author (living or dead) about how the book personally affected them.

The students' letters undergo two rounds of judging at the national level by the Library of Congress' Center for the Book. The letters of the finalists are returned to each state. In the Gem state, the students' letters are judged by professors from three Idaho universities.

All of the state-level winners in Idaho, along with their family members, will be invited to a luncheon in Boise to celebrate the students' achievement. An author will be the keynote speaker at the event, which is sponsored by the ICfL.

Comings and Goings



Janet Franklin

Welcome to **Janet Franklin**, ICfL's newest board member. Franklin replaces Sara Staub, who retired from the ICfL Board after 15 years of service. Franklin represents the 2nd Congressional District of Buhl, Idaho. She is a bookkeeper and has been a member of a variety of boards, including the Southern Idaho Tourism Board. Franklin also contributes her time and talents to a number of causes and organizations, such as the Buhl Chamber of Commerce, for which she served as president and treasurer.

Congratulations to **Stephanie Bailey-White**, who has been named the ICfL's Deputy State Librarian. This position was available (and renamed to be in line with other State agencies) as the result of Marjorie Shelby Hooper's retirement from the Commission, after serving Idaho's libraries for 31 years. Bailey-White has been with the Commission since 1991, when she was hired as the Public Information Officer. After several years in that position, Bailey-White worked on numerous outreach programs and was instrumental in developing the Read to Me program.

State Librarian, Ann Joslin, said, "I welcome Stephanie's drive and perspective in this key role, especially at this time, as the Commission works in even broader ways to fulfill its mission of assisting libraries to build the capacity to better serve their communities."

"I look forward to growing and learning in this new position," Bailey-White said. She added, "I love being a part of the Idaho library community and think this is an exciting time to be involved in this level of library development."



Stephanie Bailey-White
Deputy State Librarian



Donna Eggers

Donna Eggers recently joined the ICfL as the Public Information Specialist, after the retirement of Teresa Lipus, who was with the Commission for seven years. Eggers has been a freelance writer and served as the Public Affairs Manager for the Intermountain West Division of Albertsons. With the ICfL, Eggers creates a variety of materials, including fact sheets and newsletters, and conducts media outreach on behalf of ICfL programs and services.

And **congratulations** to several in our library community as they take on or continue in new roles.

Lynne Bidwell remains the Interim Director of the Lewis Clark State College Library, after the newly hired Director reconsidered her acceptance of the role.

Lisa Hardy, Director, Kellogg Public Library.

Kerri Hart, Director, Garden Valley District Library.

William Lamb, Director, Mountain Home Public Library, after Luise House's retirement (31 years of service).

Angela Norman, Director, Grangeville Centennial Library.

Valerie Stewart-Rice is the Interim Director of the Cascade Public Library, after Robin Mayfield's retirement.

Candi Rounsevel, Director, St. Maries Public Library.

Kudos to the Glenns Ferry Public Library

Congratulations to the Glenns Ferry Public Library for being just one of 15 libraries selected from 106 applicants for the “Small Libraries Create Smart Space project,” which is led by OCLC, in partnership with the Association for Rural and Small Libraries. A staff member from the library will be guided through a training program designed by WebJunction. The participants from each library will then apply what they learn to reimagine and reconfigure library space to support socially engaging and active learning programming that addresses a defined community need.

In their application, Library Director Jennifer Trail focused on the community responsibility of continuing education for all age levels, particularly in small towns, where one group or entity cannot fill this huge need alone. Which is where the library and its partnerships come in. Trail said, “The library is a unique place and a perfect fit for this kind of opportunity, because it serves people from infancy through final stages of life.” She added, “I believe it is important to build on what local skills we have and share those with each other. I want my library to offer the community something multi-generational and fluid.” Trail went on to note, “We all truly have something to offer, and I hope this space will serve as a safe and inviting place to share that experience.”

The area being developed will be adaptable for various learning situations and open for local groups to use, such as the Boy and Girl Scouts, the senior center, and area schools.

“These libraries were chosen based on a well-articulated understanding of their communities, commitment to championing economic and educational success, and an enthusiasm for bringing the voice of community members to their planning process,” said Sharon Streams, Director, WebJunction.

This accomplishment by Director Jennifer Trail and her team at the Glenns Ferry Public Library is an example of community engagement at its finest.



Groundbreaking at the Bellevue Public Library



2016 ILA Award Winners

Congratulations to all of the ILA award winners for 2016.

We thank them for their tremendous service to the Idaho library community.

Public Library of the Year

Caldwell Public Library

Librarian of the Year

Lacey Welt, Caldwell Public Library

Trustee of the Year

Rosemary Yocum, Priest Lake Public Library

Friend of the Year

Maryann Cole, Friends of Caldwell Public Library

Legislator of the Year

Representative Reed DeMordaunt, Ada County

Paraprofessional of the Year

Gregg Whitmore, Boise Veteran's Administration Medical Center Medical Library

School Librarian of the Year

Tifani Young, Lakeland School District

Special Services to Libraries Award

Kevin Booe, Boise Public Library

ILA Scholarship

Alexi Sprague, Meridian Library District

Gardner Hanks Scholarship

Lisa Egan, Boise Public Library

Trustee of the **Caldwell Public Library**, Larry Blackburn, said of the winning Librarian of the Year, "Lacey has turned our facility around in so many ways. She first worked on the infrastructure of the library and oversaw a nearly \$300,000 remodeling project in our children's and community rooms. The improvements were funded from endowments, not tax dollars."

Blackburn added, "Lacey is so well-respected by the staff, and she has created an environment where library personnel are encouraged to be creative and innovative in their daily duties."



2016 ILA Librarian of the Year, Lacey Welt



From left: Sandy Hetzel, Buyer; Tina Schilling, Office Specialist; Shirley Biladeau, Continuing Education Consultant (kneeling); Pam Bradshaw, Program Supervisor; Ann Joslin, State Librarian.

