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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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### **Idaho Commission for Libraries Recipient of Barnes & Noble Holiday Drive Books**

BOISE, Idaho —The Boise-area Barnes & Noble store designated the Idaho Commission for Libraries' Read to Me program as the recipient of this year's local Holiday Book Drive.

Barnes & Noble has sponsored a Holiday Book Drive for several years. The drive garners a lot of community support and provides an opportunity for customers to donate books through locally designated non-profit organizations. This is the first year that the Commission's Read to Me program has been a recipient of the Holiday Book Drive. The donated books will be used to support programs that reach underserved children across Idaho.

"The Holiday Book Drive is one of our most popular community partnerships," Sarah DiFrancesco, director of community relations for Barnes & Noble, said. "Our booksellers and customers get to share the pure joy of giving a book to a child in need. And because each Barnes & Noble store chooses its local non-profit beneficiary, the donations are very personal."

"Books are gifts that keep on giving," Read to Me Program Co-Coordinator Erica Compton said. "Children who have been read to on a regular basis are better prepared for school and do better as they progress through the grades. They are more likely to be able to give back to society in the future." "Reading is a fundamental skill at every stage of life," said State Librarian Ann Joslin. "We appreciate this opportunity from Barnes & Noble to expand the reach of our early literacy programs to more Idaho children."

On Friday, December 16, the Commission's Read to Me staff picked up the nearly 1,200 new children's books that have been donated so far. The Boise Barnes & Noble Booksellers will continue to collect books for the Commission's Read to Me program through December 31<sup>st</sup>.

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### **ABOUT IDAHO COMMISSION FOR LIBRARIES**

The Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) assists libraries to build the capacity to better serve their clientele. To learn more about ICfL, visit <http://libraries.idaho.gov/>.



**ABOUT BARNES & NOBLE, INC.**

Barnes & Noble, Inc. (NYSE:BKS), a Fortune 500 company, operates 704 bookstores in 50 states. Barnes & Noble College Booksellers, LLC, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Barnes & Noble, also operates 635 college bookstores across the United States. Barnes & Noble conducts its online business through BN.com ([www.bn.com](http://www.bn.com)). General information on Barnes & Noble, Inc. can be obtained via the Internet by visiting the company's corporate website: [www.barnesandnobleinc.com](http://www.barnesandnobleinc.com).