Welcome to the first issue of the New Year! I’ve recently learned of some fascinating traditions conducted around the world to help ensure the new year is the best it can be. Check out these four:

**Plate Breaking:**
In Denmark, they save all their unused dishes until the 31st of December when they affectionately shatter them against the doors of all their friends and neighbors as a sign of everlasting friendship.

**Suitcases:**
In Colombia, they carry their suitcases around with them all day in hopes of having a travel-filled year.

**Bread Power:**
In Ireland, folks bang their walls and doors with loaves of bread to drive away evil spirits.

**Metal Casters:**
In Finland, people predict the coming year by casting molten tin into a bucket of water and interpreting the resulting shape.

And there are plenty more traditions out there! So whether you are throwing plates or bread, or predicting the future with suitcases or molten tin, I hope this a great new year for all!

**Library to Library**

**Family Reading Week a success in Prairie River!**

“During the 2017 Family Reading Week, the Prairie River Library District Winchester and Craigmont Branches visited the
Craigmont Elementary School. Winchester branch manager Chris Case and Craigmont branch manager TJ Breeze visited Kindergarten through fifth-grade. Each class was read a folk tale and taught about how folk tales came to be. The Kindergarten class enjoyed the story “Three Billy Goats Gruff” and got to have a mask of a goat or of the troll in the story. The fourth-grade class got right in to the story of “Pecos Bill”. This class had been working on reports about special places and they asked if they could display their work at the Winchester Library for the libraries’ Christmas open house. One child sighted his sources and actually listed our Pecos Bill story as a book where he got his information. What a wonderful class! Mrs. Rigger's fifth-grade class was especially interested in the folktales that were read to them. This in turn sparked the idea of challenging the class to write their own folktale - this challenge stood and the class wrote their own folk tales. TJ and I are just amazed at the interaction that we got from these kids and how much they enjoyed learning about the folktales. We look forward to next year’s Family Reading Week and hope other libraries have just as much fun and interest from schools as we did. Keep up the great work inspiring today's youth through reading.”

--Thank you Chris Case for this great example of public and school libraries collaborating for FRW!

**Sugar Plum Fairies in Driggs**

These cute ballerinas were spotted at the Driggs Branch of the Valley of the Tetons District Library before Christmas. We love to pop in to see your libraries when we are out and about!

**YOUNG ADULT CORNER**

**Teen Tech Week**

Celebrate Teen Tech Week and let the Idaho Commission for Libraries help!

The first 60 libraries registering to hold an event and agreeing to complete a summary will receive:
• *The Green Screen Makerspace Project Book* by Todd Burleson
• *Makerspace Sound and Music Projects for All Ages* by Isaac & Mary Glendening
• Set of 3D Snap Circuits *3D Illumination Electronics Discovery Kit*

Details:

• register for TTW by February 16, 2018
• receive books & Snap Circuits from ICfL before March 1, 2018
• hold a TTW library event for teens or tweens anytime in March
• submit summary of activities/evaluation report before April 8, 2018

*Only publicly-funded school and public libraries are eligible to apply.*

**YALSA Needs Presenters**

Next year’s YALSA Symposium, which takes place in nearby Salt Lake City needs some presenters. This year’s theme revolves around social and emotional learning and how libraries help teens effectively navigate a challenging world. Do you have a great service that you would like to share with others? If so, please consider submitting a proposal. And…..don’t forget that if you have never been to a YALSA Symposium, you are eligible to apply to ICfL for a First-Time Conference Attendance Grant.

**Best YA Literature of 2017**

Last month YALSA announced the finalists for the *Morris Award* (see “Book Look” in this issue for more info), a debut award for YA literature and their YA *Nonfiction Award*. They also announced the final selections for their Quick Picks for Reluctant YA Readers and Amazing Audiobooks for YAs lists: [http://bit.ly/2zCCe2N](http://bit.ly/2zCCe2N). Check them out!

**SCHOOL ZONE**

**That All May Read: A Snapshot of the National Library Service for the Blind & Physically Handicapped**

~ By Helen Adams on 12/04/2017, *Knowledge Quest*, a Journal of the American Association of School Librarians
School librarians encourage reading and protect their students’ right to read; but what if one of the students is blind, partially sighted, is physically unable to turn the pages of books, or has a reading disability that prevents reading print normally? The National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS), based in the Library of Congress, is an excellent source for special-format books, magazines, and music materials. Continue reading…

**Apply for an Elementary School Library Access Grant!**

Over the past six years, the Idaho Commission for Libraries has funded mini-grants to 121 Idaho elementary school libraries, who then increased access to books for their youngest students. Already received a Mini-Grant? This year, in addition to our normal mini-grant, ICfL is pleased to add a School Library Access (SLA) Mini-Grant – Round 2! Elementary schools who received any SLA Mini-Grant prior to the 2015-2016 school year are eligible for this Round 2 grant. This grant can be used to support older elementary students, as well as beginning readers.

The 2018-2019 School Library Access Mini-Grant application deadline for both types of mini-grants is February 23, 2018.

Apply

**AASL National School Library Standards**

Sometimes when a new set of standards is introduced, it is difficult to know where to start, how to apply them, and how a set of standards fits with existing curriculum and everyday practice. Luckily, there are some helpful tools included in AASL’s new National School Library Standards to help us unpack the standards and start using them in the most useful way.

First, remember that standards, whether AASL standards, ISTE standards, or Idaho Core Standards, are not the same as curriculum. It might help to think of standards as the destination and curriculum as the road to get there. Second, it is not recommended that we implement these standards all at once. Take one or two things at a time and incorporate them into your practice. Check out this “Where Do I Start” infographic for more ideas on getting started:

Continue reading…

**Lights! Camera! Action!**

Once again, the Idaho Library Association is making CSLP’s Teen Video Challenge available to Idaho’s students! See “Summer Reading News” for all the details.

**College and Career Readiness for All**

Read about College and Career Readiness for All in January’s edition of the Low Hanging Fruit newsletter.
January’s Nonfiction Book of the Month

In anticipation of Women’s History Month in February, January’s Nonfiction Book of the Month is *Votes for Women! American Suffragists and the Battle for the Ballot* by Winifred Conklin.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dia de los Ninos

For Dia de los Ninos, we are excited to have amazing new program artwork available for library use and program marketing this year. Check it out…


This year, Dia de los Ninos will once again embrace its original roots as a Mexican celebration for children – the day of the child. Both the hardcover and paperback books offered as program resources to participating libraries will have a mostly Hispanic focus, with 50% of the titles being offered as bilingual (English/Spanish). A smaller portion of a variety of multicultural paperback books will also be supplied. Visit our Dia program web page for more information and resources.

Libraries wanting to offer a Dia celebration that is more multicultural in focus, can apply during the same timeframe for multicultural book support through ICfL’s Year-Round Underserved Program.

The two hardcover titles being provided for 20 participating Dia libraries this year are:

**Book 1:** *Danza! Amalia Hernandez and El Ballet Folklorico de Mexico*, in celebration of the 100th anniversary of Hernandez’s birth. Written and illustrated by Duncan Tonatiuh.

**Book 2:** *Esquivel! – Space-Age Sound Artist*, a related title about another Mexican artist and a Pura Belpre Medal 2017 Illustrator Honor Book. Written by Susan Wood and also illustrated by Duncan Tonatiuh.
Jump Start/ Kindergarten Registration Open

It’s that time of year when schools are setting their kindergarten registration dates. ICfL supports school and public library partnerships during this milestone in a child/parent’s life by providing books and literacy materials during kindergarten registration. This year, we have a new Kindergarten title (bilingual) for ALL participating libraries, with the five early literacy skills printed on the inside cover for easy parental access. Also, each parent will receive a school photo magnet, with quick reminders of the daily literacy activities. Be sure to point out these updated resources to families as you hand them out!

Learn More / Register

Family Reading Week update and partner prize!

With an increase in the number of libraries participating in Idaho Family Reading Week this year (123 libraries!), we served a record number of families and children – 5,648 families and 12,300 children!! This is a significant increase since last year. Way to go Idaho libraries!

While partnering with a community organization to help implement Idaho Family Reading Week events are not required, they are encouraged. This year, 52 of the 123 participating libraries worked with a community partner. ICfL entered these libraries into a random drawing for five copies of Lakeshore Learning’s STEM Fairy Tale Problem Solving Kit – Three Billy Goats Gruff. Congratulations to the following participating libraries who were drawn for this partner prize:

- Latah County District Library – Genesee Branch
- Kootenai Elementary School Library
- Gooding Public Library
- Homedale Public Library
- Meridian District Library – Silverstone Branch

Idaho’s 10th Early Years Conference – Save the Date!

Sponsored by the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare, and supported by ICfL, Early Years 2018 will feature keynote speakers Dr. Dana Suskind, author of Thirty Million Words: Building a Child’s Brain. Dr. Suskind stresses the importance of early language exposure and draws on her own experiences with patients and neuroscience research.
Be sure to mark your calendars for October 24-25, 2018, in Boise. Registration material will be available in early summer 2018.

**TIPS AND TOOLS**

**Bookapalooza is Back!**

Apply to receive a free collection of new materials that will help transform your collection and allow you to serve your community in creative and innovative ways.

The Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC) and the Grants Administration Committee are now accepting online applications for the 2018 Bookapalooza program. Through the program, ALSC will select three libraries to receive a full set of newly published books, videos, audio books, and recordings from children’s trade publishers. Each application will be judged on the following:

- The degree of need in the community.
- The degree of need of the library where the materials will be used.
- The extent to which the materials will improve service to children in the community.
- The extent to which the plan for using the materials is creative and innovative.
- The clarity and effectiveness of the plan to make the materials available.
- The clarity and effectiveness of the statement of need.

Applications are available now and must be submitted by February 1, 2018. Applicants must be personal members of ALSC.

**Free Chipotle Kids’ Meal cards for Reading Programs**

Looking for incentives for winter or summer reading programs? The application window for Chipotle’s Reading Rewards program are being accepted through February 28. Libraries and schools may apply to receive bookmarks that include FREE Chipotle Kid’s Meal cards (for grades K-5) or Buy One/Get One Free entrée cards (for grades 6+, teens, and adults). For more info and to apply:

[www.chipotle.com/reading](http://www.chipotle.com/reading)

This information is provided as a convenience to Idaho libraries and does not constitute an endorsement by the ICfL.
**SUMMER READING NEWS**

**Let us know you received your summer reading manual**

Manuals were shipped around Thanksgiving. Your manual package contained a cover letter with a link to let us know you received your manual. If you have not yet done so, please go to this link and let us know your manual has been opened:

https://form.jotform.com/icfl/2018-SRP-manual-received

If you haven’t seen your manual, please look around carefully. Only one manual was returned, so we know all the others were delivered.

**Test your USB!**

If you received your manual in USB format, please pop it in immediately and make sure you have all the files. If it’s blank please contact staci.shaw@libraries.idaho.gov ASAP. I can get it replaced but I need to make those exchanges now rather than later...

**Bright Futures Applications Open Now**

Apply now to participate in outreach programs for summer reading:

Parent Outreach: Deadline is March 21

Strengthening School Partnerships: Deadline is March 21

Summer Outreach to Underserved Children: Deadline is May 1

*Read more about outreach programs here...*

**News from CSLP**

Collaborative Summer Library Program (CSLP) organizational coordinator Luke Kralik has posted a new mini-tutorial on using the online CSLP manual. See how to download the entire manual, how to access the images in bulk, and how to efficiently navigate the interface. One big advantage of the online (and USB/DVD) PDF manual is that it’s keyword-searchable.

Check out “Four easy ways to get the most out of your online manual.”
Lights! Cameral! Action!

Once again, the Idaho Library Association is making CSLP’s Teen Video Challenge available to Idaho students! Teens are challenged to produce a video promoting public library summer reading programs to keep kids and teens reading throughout the summer. This year’s Summer Reading theme is “Libraries Rock!” and the winning entry from Idaho will receive $100.


FEATURED:

Summer STEM from Your Library applications open now!

The Idaho STEM Action Center is providing funds to ICfL to award up to 60 public, school, or academic libraries $500 each to help pay for materials or presenters to support STEM outreach efforts during the summer. ICfL will also help provide a toolkit for learning activities, a branded yard sign and other resources. The Summer STEM from Your Library program has three primary goals:

- Increase access to fun, engaging, hands-on STEM activities for underserved youth beyond the normal library programming efforts;
- Increase children’s access to books over the summer months;
- Increase the number of children who minimize learning loss during the summer.

Last summer, 32 libraries participated in this program and served nearly 11,000 children and teens.

Hear what a few recent participating libraries had to say about offering this program in their communities:

“The students were able to access books and technology that aren’t always available at a public library. The students also learned valuable skills in coding and programming that will help them in future jobs. Our local community was able to access a library that was closer than the public library. Students were also able to walk or ride bikes to get to our school and utilize our library.”

“By participating in Summer STEM, I feel the community was more involved and active during the summer months of July and August. It is great to be a part of something bigger. Students were excited to check out books from both the school library and community library. They were delighted to learn that reading books at Summer STEM also counted towards their Summer Reading Program at the community library.”

“We showed the community that we are working to help our kids grow and become thinkers.”
“We had additional families come into the library after experiencing our STEM program at the Rec Center."

“We gained a new awareness of what our patrons desire in programing. Our young patrons were so excited each week to see what our new project would entail. We are hoping to offer a similar program going forward. Also, it brought adult attention to our Advanced Makerspace!”

The application to apply for this program is open January 5th - February 15th.

CE NEWS YOU CAN USE

January 2018 – by Gina Persichini

What are your continuing education resolutions for 2018? Professional development is important. It’s not just about learning something new, though that is an important part of it. Professional development is also a way we can step back from the day-to-day and reconnect with our careers. We do this by connecting with others in our field forming a personal learning network, by finding inspiration from success stories and best practices being modeled by others, and by refreshing our skills so they remain vibrant and up to date. As you are making your way in 2018, consider adding one or two of these ideas to your resolutions list:

- Attend the Idaho Library Association annual conference October 3-5, 2018, in Moscow, Idaho. The theme is “Libraries Rock!” There will opportunities to connect with your peers that serve children and young adults, to learn new things, and be inspired.
- Register for an Info2Go! Webinar. The schedule for 2018 is ready. You can learn how the maker movement impacts literacy, about the Parent Education Resource Center from Idaho Digital Learning Academy, and how to protect children in the library when there is suspected abuse or neglect.
- Apply for a First Time Attendance Conference grant to take part in the Computers in Libraries conference in Arlington, VA, April 17-19 – especially their Internet@Schools track.
- Sign up for the Tech Talk Newsletter to get a weekly email with simple technology tips to make your day-to-day a little easier.
- Contact your nearest school or public library to talk about how you can partner for Summer Reading or other programs. In addition to creating opportunities for young readers, the partnership is an excellent way to build your local professional network.
- Hold July 17-19 on your planning calendar to attend ICfL’s Summer Summit for schools in Boise. Registration will open in March.
- Browse through the Get to Know the LiLI Tools guide to learn about a LiLI Database in a quick and easy format. Each tool’s guide explains what it is and why someone would use it, provides a link and activities to try it out, and lists short tutorials to see how it works. Learn about Explora for Primary grades, Explora for Secondary grades, Literary Reference Center, NoveList Plus, and more!
ICfL CE Grants website update

As of December 19, the ICfL Funding for Libraries page on our website was updated to move the Continuing Education Grants information to another location. This change allows for more visibility for all the grant programs.

WebJunction Launches Expansion of Successful Early Literacy Training

WebJunction is updating and expanding its successful Supercharged Storytimes pilot project. This new project, called Supercharged Storytimes for All, will include expanded materials that will cover foundational early literacy concepts and alignment with other library training that educates parents and caregivers about their role in supporting early literacy. The program launched November 2017 and runs through April 2019. The training is available for free to all via WebJunction.

Free one-hour self-paced course from LibraryU and WebJunction:

Accompanying the Young Reader: Helping to Choose Appropriate Books
This course is designed for teachers, librarians, and parents who are helping beginning readers choose books. As professionals, we can fine-tune this process before it begins, eliminate much of the frustration, and offer the learner appropriate choices that will get them into reading! It’s based on the Reading Recovery Teacher training in which teachers learn how an appropriate book choice for each daily lesson encourages successful reading.
DIVERSITY IN ACTION

Loving Vs. Virginia – a SLJ DVD Review

This year marks the 50th anniversary of Loving v. Virginia, the landmark Supreme Court case that struck down laws barring interracial marriage. The couple at the heart of the case—Mildred Jeter, who was black and Native American, and Richard Loving, who was white—were reluctant heroes.

Continue Reading…

ALA invites applicants to Great Stories Club

Pilot program for underserved youth

The American Library Association (ALA) invites libraries to apply for a pilot of the Truth, Racial Healing & Transformation (TRHT) Great Stories Club (GSC), a thematic reading and discussion program series that will engage underserved teens through literature-based library outreach programs and racial healing work.

The TRHT GSC will feature books that explore the coming-of-age experience for young people in historically marginalized groups. Visit the project guidelines and apply online by Feb. 16, 2018. Potential applicants may register for a free Jan. 12 webinar to learn more about the pilot program and its requirements.

Learn More/Apply

KNOW THE NUMBERS

Kindergarten Reading Scores Hit 11-Year Low

Idaho Ed News article, by Kevin Richert, December 19, 2017

 Barely half of kindergartners showed up to school this fall reading at grade level.

 The statewide scores aren’t final — but they are troubling.

 Only 50.1 percent of kindergartners scored at grade level on the Idaho Reading Indicator, according to the State Department of Education. If the scores hold, they will be the lowest since 2006-07, and mark the sixth consecutive drop in fall kindergarten scores.
The scores confirm what SDE officials are hearing from local teachers and administrators.

“They’re very concerned about the readiness and skills of students,” said Karlynn Laraway, the SDE’s assessment director.

Continue Reading…

STEAM

Make It at the Library

Application for Make It at your Library: with a focus on Design Thinking and Design 2018 is now open. This year’s Make It at the Library training will be held regionally. Up to 45 participating libraries will be selected on a competitive basis. 2018 training dates/locations are:

- March 15 & 16, in Boise
- April 3 & 4, in Idaho Falls
- April 10 & 11, in Moscow

Learn More/Apply

BOOK LOOK

17th Annual Mock Caldecott Tea at Ada Community Library’s Lake Hazel

On December 15, about thirty public and school librarians and other guests from around the valley gathered at the Lake Hazel Branch library to sip tea, nibble cookies, and discuss picture books during the Ada Community Libraries’ 17th Annual Mock Caldecott Tea.

Attendees had the difficult task of choosing three winners from among the 175 picture books present. The books selected by the group were:
3rd place Mock Caldecott Honor: *This House, Once*, by Deborah Freedman

2nd place, for the Mock Caldecott Honor: *Little Fox in the Forest*, by Stephanie Graegin

1st place, for the Mock Caldecott Medal: *After the Fall*, by Dan Santat

### 2018 ALA Youth Media Award

If you’re not among the fortunate ones headed to Denver for the ALA Midwinter Conference in February, mark your calendar to follow the **2018 ALA Youth Media Award** results live.

The American Library Association (ALA) will reveal the next classics in children’s and young adult literature during its Youth Media Awards at 10 a.m. EST, February 12, from Denver (8:00 am local time). Libraries, schools and book lovers from around the globe will follow the action live through ALA social media channels and the live webcast.

The William C. Morris YA Debut Award, first given in 2009, honors a book published by a first-time author writing for teens and celebrating impressive new voices in young adult literature.

Here’s the shortlist of the five finalists – winner to be announced at the ALA Youth Media Awards:

Check out YALSA’s new **Teen Book Finder Database**, a one-stop shop for finding selected lists and award winners. Search this free resource by award, list name, year, author, genre and more, and print customizable lists.

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**Talk Back:** *We welcome your feedback on anything in The Scoop. Just email Staci, Kristina or Tammy and we’ll print your comments in The Scoop.*
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