**WELCOME**

By Tammy Hawley-House

It is February and the Winter Olympics are about to begin. Whether you are a fan of skiing, speed skating or my favorite curling, it is highly likely that your customers will be asking for lots for books related to winter sports and Korea. Reading Rockets has created a list of books with Korean themes, characters, or settings just for you. So, sit back and let the reading/curling begin!

**Book Awards**

Don’t forget that February 12, 2018 at 8:00 a.m. Mountain Time, the 2018 Youth Media Awards (Caldecott, Newbery, and more) announcements will be made. You can follow the webcast at [http://ala.unikron.com/2018/index_home.php](http://ala.unikron.com/2018/index_home.php).

**LIBRARY TO LIBRARY**

**Meteorites land in Mountain Home**

The Mountain Home Public Library (MHPL) recently hosted a program about meteorites with a special guest from the Idaho Museum of Mining and Geology. Shasta from MHPL says “Eliza was my contact and she said she loves outreaching events like this. They’ve also let us house a mineral kit and one of their seismometers so we could see tracking of the ground movement and they linked their seismometer at the museum so we could compare the graphs. I’m sure if another library would like to have a turn housing it, the museum would be more than willing to let them.” If you are planning a Libraries Rock themed Summer Reading, you might want to add this museum as a resource and partner. Call Eliza at 208-571-5720 or email: education@idahomuseum.org.
Nampa Library shares early literacy tips

Check out Nampa Public Library’s recently improved homage to early literacy. Geared for parents and adult caregivers, the information provides tips and activities to encourage early literacy practices. I recognize some of those informational handouts. If your library would like to provide early literacy handouts, remember to order them from us at http://libraries.idaho.gov/page/read-to-me-support-materials-order-form. The resources are free to your library and will be shipped at no additional cost to you.

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 2 books and a set of 3D Snap Circuits.

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 report before April 8, 2018

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

Teen Literacies Toolkit

Have you checked out YALSA’s Teen Literacies Toolkit. They utilize “fake news” in approaching strategies to target multiple literacies. It is full of activity ideas and contains a section on Cultural context. This is a must read for teacher librarians and anyone working with teens.
SCHOOL ZONE

School Library Access Mini-Grant Application Deadline: February 23, 2018!

Been thinking about applying for an Elementary School Library Mini-Grant? The application deadline is coming up, so don’t delay! Find the application, eligibility requirements, and all the details on the School Access Mini-Grants page at libraries.idaho.gov.

Got questions? Contact Jeannie at jeannie.standal@libraries.idaho.gov

AASL National School Library Standards: Shared Foundations

The AASL National School Library Standards are three sets of standards: one for learners; one for school librarians; and one for the school library program itself. All three of the standards sets, called Frameworks, use the Shared Foundations, which reflect the core values of school librarianship. They are at the highest level of the standards hierarchy for each of the three frameworks.

There are six Shared Foundations and here is how they, and their accompanying Key Commitments, work to organize the standards and create a variety of entry points for the standards:

Idaho Day is March 4th!

Idaho Day is a Sunday this year. The Capitol is celebrating on Monday, March 5th – and so can you! Here are some fun ways to celebrate Idaho Day in the School Library:

- Use this printable PDF to make bookmarks with Idaho state symbols to give to students and teachers.
- Pull the books in your collection by Idaho Authors using A Sampling of Idaho by the Author and make a cool display.
- Visit https://history.idaho.gov/educate for more resources and ideas on celebrating Idaho Day!
- Challenge: make an Idaho-shaped book stack and send a photo! There might be a nice hard-back book in it for you!

February’s Nonfiction Book of the Month

Who changed farming? John Deere, That’s Who’s!

February’s Nonfiction Book of the Month written by Tracy Nelson Maurer and illustrated Tim Zeltner.

February’s Low Hanging Fruit

Middle School and High School librarians won’t want to miss February’s Low Hanging Fruit. Rick Stoddart, Ph.D., has written an article entitled Leveraging the High School Research Experience.
UPCOMING EVENTS

Día de los Niños program now open!

Apply between Feb 1 – March 15. ICfL can support 20 libraries with Dia resources this year.

- New program art!
- Lots of updated resources on our website – arts & crafts lessons, recipes, games & activities, recommended book lists, program planning guide, marketing material - at: libraries.idaho.gov/el-dia-de-los-ninos

This year, Día de los Niños 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.

Register to hold an Idaho Childcare Reads Workshop

Registration is now open for libraries to host an Idaho Childcare Reads workshop for preschool teachers, and childcare providers. Each 3-hour workshop is packed with early literacy skills and easily replicable activities that enhance early literacy learning. Attendees receive books, magnetic letters, and more for their childcare centers. Contact Staci for more information.
**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]

**NEA Read Across America/ Dr. Seuss’ Birthday: March 2**

Interested in planning an event for this National Education Association (NEA) annual celebration? Here is a planning kit and artwork you can use on your website, Facebook page, and more! (Please be sure to read copyright agreement and rules of use for artwork.) [http://www.nea.org/grants/plan-a-reading-event.htm](http://www.nea.org/grants/plan-a-reading-event.htm)

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**TIPS AND TOOLS**

**Pilcrow Foundation Books for Rural Libraries Grants**

The Pilcrow Foundation, a national non-profit public charity, provides a 2-to-1 match to rural public libraries that receive a grant through its Children’s Book Project and contribute $200-$400 through a local sponsor for the purchase of up to $1200 worth (at retail value) of new, quality, hardcover children’s books.

They provide a list of over 500 quality hardcover children’s books from which Children’s Book Project grant recipients can select books best suited for their community. The book list includes award-winning and star-reviewed titles from educational and literary organizations.

To qualify for the grant, libraries must be located in a rural area within the 50 United States, have a limited operating budget, have an active children’s department, and raise $200-$400 through a local
sponsor. Libraries with total operating budgets of less than $50,000 will receive funding priority; however, town libraries with total operating budgets over $150,000 may also apply for grants.

**Application deadlines for 2018** grant cycles are April 1 and October 1 (postmark date).

Several Idaho libraries have received this grant in the past.

**Idaho’s 2018 PBS KIDS Writers Contest**

Children in **grades K – 3** are asked to write and illustrate their own stories. Idaho Public Television staff select three winners for every grade for each of three regions in Idaho. Winners receive books, prizes and a $100 contribution to their Idaho 529 College Saving Program account from IDEal. The winning stories will be posted on the IDPTV website. Every child who enters the contest gets their story back with a certificate printed with their name. **The deadline for entries is March 31, 2018.**

For more information, application forms, rules, and tips, go to idahoptv.org/writerscontest. You can see last year’s winning stories at http://idahoptv.org/kids/contest/2017winners.cfm. Questions should be directed to: Cindy Lunte, Education Specialist, Idaho Public Television. (208) 373-7311.

**Ezra Jack Keats Foundation Mini-Grants**

The Ezra Jack Keats Foundation (EJK) is accepting proposals for 2018 mini-grants. The EJK mini-grant offers funding of up to $500 and the opportunity to design and implement a creative program for your library. Approximately 60 grants of up to $500 each will be awarded to qualifying teachers and librarians at public schools and libraries in the US. The deadline for submissions is March 31, 2018.

**Pinwheels for Prevention: Library Participation**

The annual **Child Abuse Prevention Month** is in April and every year organizations (including many libraries) throughout Idaho participate. Sponsored by the Idaho Children’s Trust Fund (ICTF), Pinwheels for Prevention is a campaign that supports public awareness efforts by providing pinwheels and signage to show support for child abuse prevention. April is less than two months away, so plan your organizations' **Pinwheels for Prevention** efforts now.

For April 2018 the ICTF has launched a “44 by 4.4” campaign; that is, to have pinwheels in all 44 Idaho counties by April 4. The Idaho Library Community can help! If your library is interested in displaying pinwheels please contact Taryn Yates for details. See this flyer, which can be printed and displayed in your library.
SUMMER READING NEWS

Summer Reading 2018: Here’s what you need to know!

1. **Program manuals** purchased by ICfL were shipped to public libraries in November. Double-check your USBs to make sure all files are there. (Manuals were provided regardless of whether you submitted a request for a specific format, as long as your summer reading report was submitted from 2017.)

2. **Four posters** are provided to each public library in February. (Posters were provided regardless of whether you submitted a request for specific age groups, as long as your summer reading report was submitted from 2017.)

3. We do not have a statewide summer reading program in Idaho—public libraries are responsible for planning, funding, and implementing its own summer reading program if you choose to host one. There are no specific rules—logistics are up to you.

4. We do, however, offer 3 **outreach programs** that you can participate in if you choose to. We provide books and materials for those (These are called **Bright Futures Outreach Programs**):
   - **Strengthening School Partnerships** (partner with school(s))—apply by March 21, 2018
   - **Parent Outreach** (face-to-face contact with parents/caregivers) – apply by March 21, 2018
   - **Summer Outreach to Underserved Children** (distributing books to kids out in the community during library events and programming) – apply by May 1, 2018

   *Note: You can apply for one or more of these three programs.*

5. For 2018, we have special **Summer STEM microgrants** of $500, open to public and school libraries: [http://libraries.idaho.gov/page/summer-stem-your-library-micro-grants](http://libraries.idaho.gov/page/summer-stem-your-library-micro-grants). Apply by Feb. 15, 2018.

6. We purchase a membership to the **Collaborative Summer Library Program** (CSLP) for all public libraries. Go to [www.cslpreads.org](http://www.cslpreads.org) and sign up for a username and password if you haven’t already. Lots of great resources, along with online program manual!

7. Public libraries are asked to fill out an **end-of-program summer reading report** by September 15, 2018. Extensions available upon request.

8. Find all kinds of great planning, promoting, evaluation, and public information resources on our website: [http://libraries.idaho.gov/page/summer-reading-resources](http://libraries.idaho.gov/page/summer-reading-resources)

9. Materials provided by our community partners: Sometimes we receive special materials or grants from community partners, which we then pass along to the libraries:
   - **Fred Meyer Stores: Books for Summer Readers**—We did receive funds for 2018, and will provide some books to each public library in April or May to use for prizes and/or outreach. No need to apply or request.
Youth Explorer Passes: The Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation will again sponsor Youth Explorer Passes for free admission to Idaho state parks for summer reading participation in 2018. Request at http://libraries.idaho.gov/page/state-parks-passes

Backpacks: We did not receive funding for 2018 and will not have backpacks available for request.

For details about any of these bullet points, see http://libraries.idaho.gov/landing/summer-reading. Contact Staci for summer reading-related questions or consultation.

Summer Reading Program Ideas: Free Webinars

If you would like some ideas for this year’s summer reading theme, here are some great webinars you can view for free:

- **Early Literacy and Children’s Manuals, hosted by the CSLP manual editor:** Free to view, facilitated by Amanda Struckmeyer, editor for Early Literacy and Children’s manuals. Watch at www.cslpreads.org/cslp-webinars/.


Scholastic Summer Reading Road Trip Sweepstakes 2018

Disclaimer: Though we are happy to pass along resources that may help you plan and implement your summer reading program, the ICfL does not endorse any “for profit” resource.

The Scholastic Summer Reading Road Trip, in partnership with the Collaborative Summer Library Program, is excited to announce a nationwide public library sweepstakes.

Highlights of the day include:

- Tented stations for crafts and activities
- Costume character appearances
- Promotional giveaways for readers of all ages
- Photo ops and more!

Bedtime Math: Summer of Numbers

If you’re looking for a little more M in your STEM programming, check out Bedtime Math. Longtime CSLP partner, Bedtime Math, is gearing up for its 2018 Summer of Numbers. Summer of Numbers is an easy way for you to incorporate math into your existing programming.

To participate in Summer of Numbers, simply download the free math chart and distribute it, along with your summer reading record. Bedtime Math will post a new math problem each night, and participants follow along, filling in their chart every time they answer a problem. At the end of the summer, they can turn their chart back into the library for a prize or certificate. It is up to you!

For more information, and to download your free math chart, promotional poster, and certificate, visit bedtimemath.org/summer-of-numbers-details

FEATURED: LOCAL BOOKS

Take a look at these recent books for children that have ties to Idaho:

Idaho Librarian and Author’s picture book released on iTunes

Have you been looking for a great mouse adventure in a picture book while learning French along the way? Look no further than The Amazing Smells of Paris. The book is a collaboration of French artist Hanna Skupniewicz-Tolbinski and Idaho Librarian Kathryn Poulter of the Marshall Public Library. The book is aptly set in Paris and follows the trail of a little mouse’s elusive childhood smell. The illustrations are a beautiful mixture of pastel textures and a variety of mediums. The text a delight, just waiting to be shared with a child. You can view sample pages from the book or purchase it from iTunes at https://itunes.apple.com/fr/book/amazing-smells-of-paris/id1320103844?mt=11. My understanding is that a plan is in the works to make it available in hardback.

Book about an Idaho bird is a finalist for the Cook Prize.

The book Beauty and the Beak, tells the true story about how science, technology and a 3D printed beak rescued a bald eagle. Beauty was found injured. Her beak was damaged by a bullet, leaving her unable to eat. She was rescued by biologist Jane Veltkamp of Birds of Prey Northwest. To date, the book has won several awards and is currently a finalist for the Cook Prize, from the prestigious Bank Street College of Education. Students in 3rd and 4th grade classes are eligible to vote on the best STEM picture book of the year. If you would like to register a class to vote for Beauty and the Beak or one of the other books finalists, please visit https://www.bankstreet.edu/center-childrens-literature/cook-prize/.
Book inspired by Idaho Librarian

*Dear Fiona* is picture book illustrated and written by Angela Matlashesvky. The book was inspired by Caldwell Public Library children’s librarian Fiona May and the description reads: “Ever wondered what it’s like to work in a library? Follow our little bookshelver as she tries to do everything herself when one of the librarians gets sick!”

Idaho Publisher develops an augmented reality board book

*Ernie’s Wish Trail* uses augmented reality enabled through an iPhone or iPad to follow the adventures of a little pig. The sturdy board book can be read alone or used with a corresponding app to provide an interactive experience for the readers. I recently meet the publisher, Narayan Vaidyanathan at STEM Matters Day. He shared his book and mentioned that as his schedule allows he might be available to visit some Idaho libraries to demonstrate and share the book. You can reach him at narayan@augpix.com. Tansi, a staff member of the Library! at Bown Crossing, recently did a video review of the book.

Idaho added to a series

It looks like our great state will be added to the Penguin board book series, *Good Night our World*. Staci and I provided a little feedback to the publisher last fall for this new title. It should be available April 3, 2018 [https://www.penguinrandomhouse.com/books/557610/good-night-idaho-by-adam-gamble-mark-jasper/](https://www.penguinrandomhouse.com/books/557610/good-night-idaho-by-adam-gamble-mark-jasper/).

CE News you Can Use

The potential to get stressed in February is great. It’s just a couple days, but that shorter month adds a lot of pressure. With that in mind, February’s Continuing Education To Do List is designed to give you high impact for a short investment of time.

- **Parent Education Resource Center.** Learn about this valuable tool from the Idaho Digital Learning Academy during this month’s Info2Go! Session on February 26th. It’s not just for parents; it’s useful for anyone supporting student learning. Register at [http://libraries.idaho.gov/info2go](http://libraries.idaho.gov/info2go). Even if you can’t make it; if you register, a link to the recording will be sent to you after the live session.
- **Library Learning Online.** Check out our updated online learning center to find on-demand learning on topics like Early Childhood Services, Young Adult Services, Advanced online Search Techniques, and Project Planning. These short self-paced learning tools are packed with
information to get you through the rest of the school year. Check out all the courses at http://libraries.idaho.gov/learningonline.

- Tech Talk. Sign up to receive this free email newsletter. It has 1 topic each week with a short video and tips for being more productive with tools like Microsoft Excel, Word, and other common software. It’s quick and easy learning, and it takes just seconds to sign up at http://libraries.idaho.gov/tech-talk.

New! Natural History Workshops from Idaho State Dept. of Parks and Rec

This teacher workshop series is open to Idaho library staff, and will be offered in six locations throughout Idaho this spring and summer. Learn about Idaho history, flora and fauna, and geology with Idaho’s state parks as your classroom.

Cost: $50 ($60 for continuing education credit)


Info / Register
DIVERSITY IN ACTION

Kwame Alexander Will Start His Own Imprint

The celebrated author of The Crossover, a hip-hop inflected novel in verse about twin brothers who are stars of their junior high school basketball team, will begin publishing books under his own imprint. He calls his imprint Versify. Stay tuned………..

What’s new in Spanish Language Publishing

The Northeast chapter of REFORMA (National Association to Promote Library & Information Services to Latinos and the Spanish Speaking) held their second annual Spanish-language Book Buzz in January. Lucky for us they are sharing new publications from numerous publishers. Take look at some of these great titles.

KNOW THE NUMBERS

Support for early childhood education in Idaho

The Idaho Association for the Education of Young Children (IDAEYC) recently released the results of a survey showing strong support for early education in Idaho. Roughly 80% of those surveyed agree there are three key benefits that result from early childhood education:

1. Access to quality, affordable preschool options for Idaho families enhances their children’s educational performance.
2. Supporting quality, affordable preschool options for Idaho families is important to building the economy through a qualified and educated workforce.
3. State funding for preschool programs results in direct returns for our state and communities – the more we invest in preschool-age children, the more they give back later in life.”

This information is sure to be shared a lot this legislative session as state-funded early education talks continue. On another note, a recent study from JAMA Pediatrics followed Chicago children from preschool into adulthood. They found that quality early education equates with students going on to college.
STEAM

Valentine Themed STEM activities

Tired of making slime and fake snow? Are you struggling to come up with some February STEM activities? The folks at Little Bins have got you covered. In no time, you will be mixing love potions, growing crystal hearts and doing a little chocolate related science. There is an entire section devoted to candy heart activities. And if you need yet another slime recipe, do not worry—they have you covered!

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.

The application to apply for this program is open through February 15th.
33 Titles to Jump-Start Black History Month

School Library Journal’s nonfiction editor, Della Farrel recently shared some great titles “with attention to quality and an emphasis on highlighting Black creators first and foremost.” While the book recommendations are great, Della’s comments on the timing of receipt of books resonated with me. She calls out the industry for its lackadaisical approach to promoting books about Black Americans. Look and see if your impressions are similar.

Children’s & Teen Choice Book Awards

Finalists for the Children’s & Teen Choice Books Awards have been announced. These awards brought to you by Every Child a Reader, a nonprofit literacy organization, state that they are the only national book awards voted on only by kids and teens. And the nominees are…………..