

SECTIONS

- Library to Library
- Young Adult Corner
- School Zone
- Upcoming Events
- Tips and Tools
- Summer Reading News
- Feature: LearnStorm Challenge
- CE News You Can Use
- Multicultural Connections
- Know the Numbers
- STEAM is Everywhere
- Book Look

DATES & DEADLINES

- **Bright Futures Summer Outreach** applications due **March 31**
- Apply to host an **Idaho Child Care Reads** workshop by **Feb. 15**
- **February 25** is the deadline for **Idaho Elementary School mini-grant** applications.
- Register for **Teen Tech Week** by **Feb. 26**
- Register for **Dia** by **April 4**
- Apply to participate in **EatPlayGrow™** any time.
- Apply to participate in **Jump Start** when you know kindergarten registration dates

WELCOME

By Staci Shaw



January was a busy month, and with the Idaho Legislature in full swing February will be just as exciting. Idaho State Librarian Ann Joslin will present ICfL's 2016 budget request to the Joint Finance and Appropriations Committee (JFAC) on February 12, where she'll have the opportunity to showcase some accomplishments and highlights from the Idaho library community.

ICfL's Tammy Hawley-House and Sue Walker showcased how libraries are supporting STEM at the January 29 "STEM Matters!" Capitol event, and Jeannie Standal and I attended the Idaho Business for Education's Legislative Academy earlier in the month.

Something to keep an eye on during this year's Legislative Session is the **Idaho School Readiness Act**. This legislation, sponsored by District 11 Representative Christie Perry, would provide matching funds for high quality preschool programs within individual communities. Another component of the program would provide funds for a preschool computer program parents can use with their children at home.

Here are two ways you can monitor the action at the Statehouse: **Eye on Boise**: Legislative blog by Betsy Russell, *Spokesman Review* **Idaho Ed News**: Education news from around Idaho

Throughout the year consider inviting your local legislators to library or outreach events so they know about all the diverse ways the library serves the community. If you're not sure who your legislators are, visit: <http://legislature.idaho.gov/who'smylegislator.htm>

LIBRARY TO LIBRARY

Bells and Whistles at Boise Public

The Boise Public Library was on the right track when they hosted the Lookout Junction Model Railroading program the weekend of January 16th. The Rocky Mountain Hi-Railer's club networked with other model railroading clubs to bring an assortment of train sizes and layouts to the library, where folks of all ages enjoyed watching

the trains travel through towns and different landscapes, and children were allowed to blow the whistles and practice coupling and uncoupling trains. Librarian Jody Vestal told us that there were so many people in the auditorium that it was impossible to get an exact count, but they estimate that about 1350 attended over the two-day event. "It was amazing!" said Youth Services Supervisor Linda Brilz. "One of the greatest things I noticed about it was how many multi-generational groups came in together. Moms, dads, grandpas, grandmas, and kids. It was very fun to see that."

There will be another weekend of the Lookout Junction Model Railroading program at the Library @ Cole & Ustick on Saturday, February 27th from 12:00 Noon to 4:30 PM and on Sunday, February 28th from 1:00 to 3:30 PM. "This program was a huge success," Jody said. "We are thankful to all the Rocky Mountain Hi-Railers and retired City of Boise employee John Eichmann, friends from the Train Collectors Association, the 3rd Division of Pacific Northwest Region National Model Railroad Association, and Avery Power & Light."



Idaho Librarian on 2016 Odyssey Award Committee



Heather Stout, Youth Services Librarian at the Lewiston City Library, listened to almost 50,000 minutes of juvenile and young adult literature in 2015 in order to choose the best audiobook of the year. The ALA announced the winners of the Youth Media Awards at the ALA Midwinter meeting on January 11. Not only was this a huge honor for Heather, the library received several hundred audiobooks on CD worth over \$18,000! Read about Heather's experience, as well as see her recommended list of audiobooks in the great news story: <http://inland360.com/books/2016/01/lewiston-libraries-benefit-from-national-audiobook-award/>. And, to see the 2016 winner (and all the Youth Media Award Winners) go to [Book Look](#) below.

YOUNG ADULT CORNER



CREATE IT AT  YOUR LIBRARY!

Teen Tech Week is around the corner. Many of you will be offering some cool and creative programs during this week and ICfL would like to support those endeavors. We are offering a challenge/contest this year where you will submit your favorite creation that was made by a teen or group of teens at a library sponsored event. Include photos and a brief write up of your event. We will post all entries and ask our Idaho library community to vote for the coolest submission. The top three winning entries will win some great Maker tools. Every library entering will get a free Maker book and a package of bookmarks from ALA graphics.

[Learn More / Register](#)

Need some free downloadable posters and bookmarks? Visit YALSA's website at <http://teentechweek.ning.com/>

Encourage Teens to Participate in the CSLP Teen Video Challenge!

Teens who create a 30- to 90-second video promoting summer reading at the public library, including their interpretation of the 2016 CSLP teen slogan "Get in the Game--Read" can win \$150, and their public library will receive prizes worth at least \$50 from CSLP and Demco/Upstart. **Entries are due March 12, 2016.**

The contest is sponsored by the Collaborative Summer Library Program (CSLP), and this year the Idaho contest is organized by the Idaho Library Association. See contest rules, entry forms, and resources at <http://idaholibraries.org/idaho-teen-video-contest/>.

SCHOOL ZONE

By Jeannie Standal

February Fun

A lot happens in February: Black History Month, President's Day, Groundhog Day, and in 2016 the presidential primaries and caucuses kick off the month and we have a February 29th! But the February holiday that looms large on many calendars is Valentine's Day. The day may include flowers or chocolates or silly balloons attached to cards, or maybe not.



Anti-Valentine's Day events are becoming more and more popular. They go way beyond a lonely hearts get-together and head straight to "we don't need no stinking valentine" territory. These activities are a fun way to show that life – even the dreaded Valentine's Day- is fun without a romance. From meme-ing old covers of bodice-ripper romances with hilarious results to breaking a piñata heart, librarians are coming up with great alternatives to Cupid's usual fare.

Queue up a playlist of not love songs for your guests to enjoy like *Love Stinks* by the J. Geils Band, *Single Ladies* by Beyonce, and *Tainted Love* by Soft Cell! It might even be fun to throw in a few friendship anthems like *Lean on Me* by Bill Withers and *I'll be There for You* by The Rembrandts. An especially adventurous group might like a karaoke selection of anti-love songs. (Don't forget to check the lyrics beforehand for age-appropriateness!) Decorate heart shaped cookies with not-so-nice sentiments like "Gag," and "Go Away," and a personal favorite "Meh."

No time for a party? Maybe work some fun into normal business with displays and book talks, or let students write their own anti-valentine or pro-friend message on a paper heart and stick it on a one-day-only display.

Do you have terrific plans for an anti-valentine's day bash that you'd like to share with other school librarians? We'd love really like to learn all about it! Send us pictures and tell us about the fun in your library at Jeannie.standal@libraries.idaho.gov and we will share it in next month's School Zone.

New Primary Source Sets from DPLA

Have you visited the Digital Public Library of America yet? If you have, you know that while they have wonderful primary source content, it can sometimes be difficult to find. Enter DPLA's Primary Source Sets. These mini-collections are already grouped by subject from topics like politics, history, art, literature, religion, and more. Pair them with the [Primary Source Analysis Tool](#) from the Library of Congress, and you are halfway there!

New Resource for Middle Grade Non-Fiction

Finding high quality nonfiction for your library can be a challenge. To aid in this never-ending quest, School Library Journal has launched a new column that focuses on nonfiction for middle grades called Nonfiction Notions. Read the first column [here](#). When the first book suggested is called *Poop Happened! A History of the World from the Bottom Up*, we know it will be good!

Nonfiction Book of the Month

Florence Nightingale: The Courageous Life of the Legendary Nurse, by Catherine Reef.

Low Hanging Fruit

[The Complexities of Text Complexities](#) - a must read for schools who use reading incentive programs like AR.

Consider a photo booth with fun unromantic props:



UPCOMING EVENTS

ALSC Institute

Award-winning author David Shannon will present the Opening General Session at the **ALSC National Institute in Charlotte, North Carolina**.

The institute is an intensive learning opportunity with a youth services focus and is designed for front-line youth library staff, children's literature experts, education and library school faculty members, and other interested adults. It is one of the only national conferences devoted solely to children's librarianship, literature and technology, and takes place every two years.

Registration is open at <http://www.ala.org/alsc/institute>. This institute is pre-approved by ICfL for a **First-Time Attendee CE grant**. The deadline to apply for the grant for this event is July 28.

March 2 is Read Across America Day

Grab your hat and read with the cat! To make your event *Seussational*, go to [Plan a Reading Event](#) for Read Across America for tips and ideas to plan your own event. Be sure to follow Read Across America on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) with #readacrossamerica.



TIPS AND TOOLS

Send Parents Home with Great Ideas

RIF calendars are a great resource for library staff to print out and provide to families. They offer monthly calendars in English and Spanish for birth to age five and ages six and above. Each calendar has ideas for parents to engage their child in activities that enhance their reading abilities every day. Check them out at www.rif.org/books-activities/calendars/.



Libri Grants for Rural Libraries

The Libri Foundation is currently accepting applications for its 2016 BOOKS FOR CHILDREN grants only for libraries that have been granted Libri books in the past and are in good standing. See that list [here](#). Application deadlines for 2016 are: (postmarked by) **March 15** and **May 15**. There is no match required this year.

If your library is listed and you are interested in applying for a grant, please email your name, title, the name of your library, and your mailing address to The Libri Foundation at libri@librifoundation.org.

After this cycle the Libri Foundation will dissolve. However, identical grants are offered by the Pilcrow Foundation (see below).

Pilcrow Foundation Grants for Rural Libraries

The Pilcrow Foundation is accepting applications for grants for children's books. The library must raise \$200 - \$400 in matching funds from their Friends group or community. Application deadlines for 2016 grant cycles are **March 1, May 1** and **October 1** (postmark date). Grants will be awarded and grant recipients will be posted on their website by **March 15, May 15** and **October 15**. Acceptance packets will be mailed within 10-15 days after grants are awarded.

Librarians may obtain a grant application from The Pilcrow Foundation in the following ways:

[More Info](#)

Idaho STEM Action Center Family STEM Event Grant

Grants for up to **\$1,000** for innovative Family STEM events are being accepted until February 12, 2016. Projects will be completed between March 11 – November 18th, 2016. Winners will be selected and monies made available on or before March 11, 2016.



[Learn More](#)

SUMMER READING NEWS

Bright Futures Applications due March 31

[School Visits](#) and [Reaching Underserved Children](#): Applications due March 31
School Partnerships applications are now closed.

If you missed the **Info to Go** session on January 4 you can watch it on our summer reading website: <http://libraries.idaho.gov/landing/summer-reading>. The session explained each program, the requirements, the materials libraries receive, and the application process. Remember, Bright Futures programs are OPT-IN, and you must apply. Please first check with others in your library to see if anyone else already applied, then check the Participant Chart to see which schools the libraries in your area might be serving.

Three important things to consider before applying:

- 1) Every library that participates in a Bright Futures program must **formally evaluate** their summer reading program.
- 2) Libraries that agree to track the number of children/teens who read at least **10 books or 10 hours** will have priority if materials are limited.
- 3) Materials for School Visits are being privately funded this year. **Drawstring backpacks** and Summer of Code flyers will be provided; in addition to elementary schools, libraries can also distribute backpacks at **junior highs and middle schools**.



Encourage your teens to participate in the national CSLP Teen Video Challenge!

Teens who create a 30- to 90-second video promoting summer reading at the public library, including their interpretation of the 2016 CSLP teen slogan "Get in the Game--Read" can win \$150, and their public library will receive prizes worth at least \$50 from CSLP and Demco/Upstart. **Entries are due March 12, 2016.**

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Archived webinars of CSLP early literacy, children's and teen programs



If you missed the live webinars, you can watch on demand [here](#).

Provide feedback about CSLP summer program manuals

In order to keep the content relevant and available via platforms library staff regularly use, CSLP needs your input. Here is a chance to provide feedback about the content, format, and additional resources provided by CSLP, as well as why you might *not* use these things. The survey will be open until **February 20**.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CSLPSurvey2016>

FEATURED:

Idaho Libraries Support Access to New LearnStorm Challenge

Over 25,000 Idaho students have already signed up for the new LearnStorm math challenge, powered by the Khan Academy, a free educational website, with support from the J.A. and Kathryn Albertson Family Foundation. The Micron Foundation, Idaho STEM Action Center and Idaho libraries are also supporting efforts.

ICfL Read to Me Coordinators have been working with Khan Academy and Albertson Foundation staff to get the word out to libraries. ICfL hosted a webinar on December 9 (visit <http://icfl.adobeconnect.com/p4hcbfj9a1z/> to view the recorded session). The challenge launched on January 29 and Read to Me Coordinators and area librarians were able to attend a breakfast kick-off and reception in Boise featuring Sal Khan. "He's done such innovative work in the education field," Read to Me Coordinator Stephanie Bailey-White said.



Stephanie and Staci with Khan Academy founder Sal Khan at the launch of Idaho's LearnStorm Challenge February 1.

"It was a treat to be able to listen to his ideas. Idaho is fortunate to be selected to participate in the LearnStorm Challenge. Idaho libraries are anxious to lend support to efforts that will help more students be ready for college and career options and this is a great opportunity." During the next nine weeks, Idaho students in grades 3-12 join the Bay Area, Chicago and Ireland as one of only four regions to participate in the challenge. Students will earn points to unlock real-life rewards for themselves and their schools by practicing math skills aligned with Idaho Core Standards.

Megan Egbert, District Programs Manager at Meridian Library District, was also able to attend the February 1 Kick-Off event and was glad that libraries were included in the planning process. "We are excited to be able to promote LearnStorm at the library as an access point for anyone who wants to participate," Megan said. "We are especially targeting our large homeschool demographic who might not hear about LearnStorm otherwise."

Library staff are also interested in how the Khan Academy is using growth mindset research. "It's about who shows the most grit, perseverance and growth mindset," Sal Khan said at the kick-off reception. "It isn't the type of competition for who knows the most math problems or who can do them the fastest."

The Khan Academy is a not-for-profit on a mission to provide a free, world-class education for anyone, anywhere. Idaho has the highest per capita use of Khan Academy resources in the nation.

See www.learnstorm2016.org/idaho/overview for more information about LearnStorm. If you have questions about how libraries can help promote the challenge, please contact [Stephanie](#) at the Idaho Commission for Libraries.



CE NEWS YOU CAN USE

Free February Webinars:

February 10 – 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM MT / 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM PT

New Spring Nonfiction for the Library, Classroom and Home (School Library Journal)

Outstanding nonfiction is key to meeting the needs of all readers, from the very youngest library users to high school students. These new materials allow educators to support higher learning standards, bolster curricula, and entice reluctant readers. Public library programming also often begins with a fresh, engaging nonfiction title.

[Learn More / Register](#)

February 11 – 12:00 – 1:00 PM MT / 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM PT

Books Build Better Brains: How Promoting Literacy Is Key to Early Brain & Child Development (Demco)

Learn about the importance of early literacy, key concepts about literacy development, and how toxic stress and early adversity can lead to lifelong issues. You'll also hear about the structure and concept behind the Reach Out and Read program, which provides early literacy promotion, as well as how libraries can become crucial partners in promoting and developing early literacy skills and helping to offset the effects of adversity.

[Learn More / Register](#)

February 17 - 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM MT / 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM PT

Using Technology to Engage the Reluctant Reader (ISTE & School Library Journal)

Learn how to use online tools to instill a love of literature in new and reluctant readers. From virtual book clubs to the creative use of Instagram and Pinterest, this program will show how students can find the right book, share it with their peers, and expand their writing skills.

[Learn More / Register](#)

February 24 - 5:00 PM MT / 4:00 PM PT

Twig to Tree: Creativity, STEM, and the Connected School Library (AASL)

Presenters Amanda Waugh and Dr. Mega Subramaniam will share scholarly research in youth development and STEM learning, then translate that research into practical programs that school librarians can integrate into their practice.

[Learn More / Register](#)

February 26 - 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM MT / 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM PT

Helping Homeschoolers (Colorado State Library)

Look at homeschooling statistics—the ‘why’ of this topic—plus the needs of homeschooling families and how to meet those needs most effectively without duplicating other services available in your community. Explore how to promote these services to homeschooling families and actively engage them at the library. Come to this free session with your experiences, challenges, questions, and ideas to share.

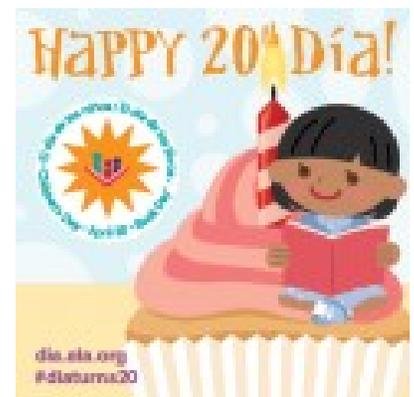
[Learn More / Register](#)

MULTICULTURAL CONNECTIONS

Idaho Libraries Encouraged to Apply for Día de los niños Books

El día de los niños/El día de los libros (Children's Day/Book Day), known as Día, is a celebration of children, families, and reading that culminates every year on April 30. The celebration emphasizes the importance of literacy and reading fun for children of all linguistic and cultural backgrounds.

Día events support literacy and bridge cultures through bilingual storytimes, family literacy fairs, community events, and other programs that encourage family reading and increased understanding of other cultures. Idaho public and school libraries are encouraged to work with at least one local partner to host a Día event and work to reach out to families who might not be library users. **Libraries that host events and complete a Día application by April 4, 2016 will receive books for participating families and posters to help promote events.**



[Register](#)

CSMCL grant for Día de los niños Books

The Center for the Study of Multicultural Literature (CSMCL), in partnership with ALSC and author Pat Mora, is providing grants for diverse books—particularly with an African American focus—to add to your library collection and support your program. The grant award amount is \$500 in selected multicultural children's books for your library. Applications must be received by **February 29, 2016**, and the award will be announced on or about March 4. The 2016 Día event must be held on or about April 30.

[Learn More/Apply](#)

KNOW THE NUMBERS

Idaho Fails K-12 Educational Accountability Test

The 20th annual edition of *Quality Counts—Called to Account: New Directions in School Accountability*—continues *Education Week's* long-standing tradition of grading the states on their performance. This year, **Idaho finishes 48th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, with an overall score of 67.9 out of 100 points and a grade of D-plus.** The nation as a whole posts a grade of C. Idaho's 2016 *Highlights Report* includes results for each of the nearly-40 indicators that make up *Quality Counts'* overall grading rubric.

Idaho – State Highlights 2016
RC | EDUCATION WEEK RESEARCH CENTER

QUALITY COUNTS 2016 GRADING SUMMARY

OVERALL GRADE		Idaho		How did the average state score?
		grade	rank	
A state's overall grade is the average of the scores for the three graded categories. Idaho: D+ Rank: 48 Nation: C Online extra Calculate your own <i>Quality Counts</i> grades at http://www.edweek.org/go/qc16calculate	Chance for success (2016)	C	34	C+
	School finance (2016)	F	49	C
	K-12 achievement (2016)	D+	31	C-

Idaho's 2016 *Highlights Report* includes results for each of the nearly-40 indicators that make up *Quality Counts'* overall grading rubric.

[Learn More](#)

STEAM

Tinkerlab: Book and website



We just ran across this great little book, *Tinkerlab: A Hands-On Guide for Little Inventors* by Rachelle Doorley, which is loaded with ideas for STEAM related activities to do with preschool aged kids. Many of the activities could be done with early elementary aged kids as well as in an afterschool program. If your library doesn't have a copy, you can find lots of the same ideas at the corresponding website <http://tinkerlab.com/>. On the website you can find a pattern for making dice with colors or emotions and other great ideas that could be easily incorporated into literacy play stations or programs. There are plenty of extension activities for storytimes as well.

Need any STEM related tools, gadgets, or kits and want to buy local? There is a new-ish Idaho Company, STEMfinity that is offering all Idaho libraries a discount of 10%. Just use the coupon code :IDSTEM16 when placing an order. You can find out more about them at www.stemfinity.com/.



BOOK LOOK

SLJ's Battle of the Books 2016



Sixteen juvenile and YA books are chosen each year, and in the spirit of the college basketball playoffs they are separated in brackets and judged. The winners of each bracket advance to the next round, and the final "battle" occurs March 30. Judges include favorite authors and illustrators of children's and YA literature. The 2016 Contender's List has been announced, and the judges are announced one per day beginning February 1. Visit the SLJ website to see how your public or school library can participate in this fun alternative to March Madness, complete with downloadable bracket sheets!

[More Info](#)



Youth Media Award Winners

In case you've been in Idris, District 12, or Luna for the last three weeks, here are a few of the winners:

John Newberry Award

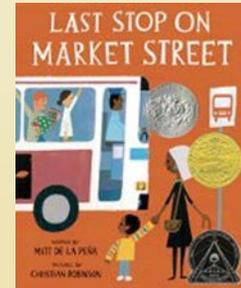
Last Stop on Market Street, by Matt de la Peña

Newberry Honor Books

The War that Saved My Life, by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley

Roller Girl, by Victoria Jamieson

Echo, by Pam Muñoz Ryan



Randolph Caldecott Award

Finding Winnie: The True Story of the World's Most Famous Bear, illustrated by Sophie Blackall, written by Lindsay Mattick

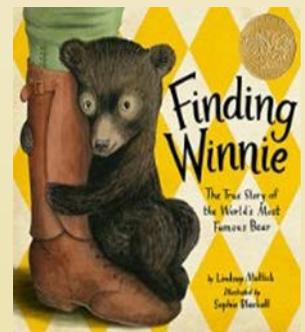
Caldecott Honor Books

Trombone Shorty, illustrated by Bryan Collier, written by Troy Andrews

Waiting, illustrated and written by Kevin Henkes

Voice of Freedom Fannie Lou Hamer Spirit of the Civil Rights Movement, illustrated by Ekuia Holmes, written by Carole Boston Weatherford

Last Stop on Market Street, illustrated by Christian Robinson, written by Matt de la Peña



Pura Belpre

(Author) *Enchanted Air: Two Cultures, Two Wings: A Memoir*, by Margarita Engle

(Illustrator) *The Drum Dream Girl*, illustrated by Rafael López, written by Margarita Engle



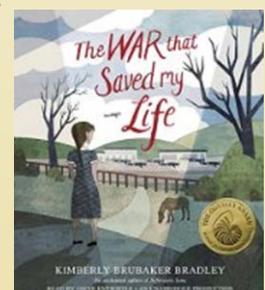
Theodor Seuss Geisel

Don't Throw It to Mo! by David A. Adler



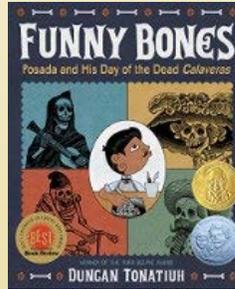
The Odyssey Award

The War that Saved My Life, produced by Listening Library, written by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley and narrated by Jayne Entwistle



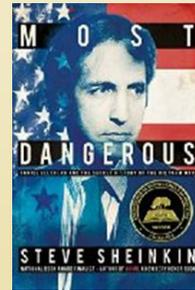
Robert F. Seibert Informational Book

Funny Bones: Posada and His Day of the Dead Calaveras, by Duncan Tonatiuh



YALSA Award for Excellence in Nonfiction for Young Adults

Most Dangerous: Daniel Ellsberg and the Secret History of the Vietnam War, by Steve Sheinkin



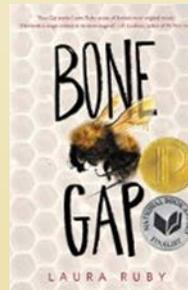
Michael L. Printz Award

Bone Gap, by Laura Ruby

Printz Honor Books

Out of Darkness, by Ashley Hope Pérez

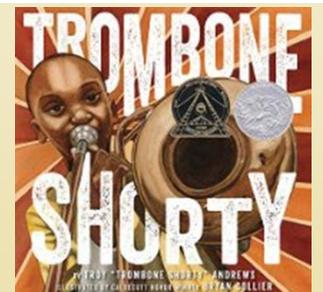
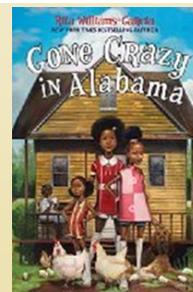
The Ghosts of Heaven, by Marcus Sedgwick



Coretta Scott King Award

(Author) *Gone Crazy in Alabama*, by Rita Williams-Garcia

(Illustrator) *Trombone Shorty*, illustrated by Bryan Collier



You can see all the winners at <http://www.ala.org/news/press-releases/2016/01/american-library-association-announces-2016-youth-media-award-winners>.

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

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Contact Information

The Scoop is a service of the Idaho Commission for Libraries' Read to Me Program. To contribute or provide suggestions, contact [Stephanie](#), [Staci](#), or [Tammy](#) at 208-334-2150 or 1-800-458-3271

