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Welcome

Thanks to those who provided content for *The Scoop* in August. Congratulations to the winner of our drawing--**Cloteele Dahle, Larsen Sant Public Library in Preston**. She won a copy of Jose Luis Orozco's *De Colores* songbook and CD.

During September, you have another opportunity to win a great prize by sending us something for *The Scoop*. Our drawing prize will be a great professional development book: ***Do It Right! Best Practices for Serving Young Adults in School and Public Libraries*** by **Patrick Jones and Joel Shoemaker**, and a poster and set of **100 bookmarks for Teen Read Week** from ALA. Are you planning something for Teen Read Week in October? If so, send us your program news, book reviews, questions, photos, articles and ideas, and we'll print 'em! We welcome all



contributions on Teen Read Week or other topics of interest.



Meet Robin Stephens!

Robin Stephens has been working at the Cambridge Community Library for four years. Recently the library director there, Nina Hawkins, persuaded Robin to apply for the school library position that opened at the Midvale School District and Robin got the job. She attended the 2005 Summer Institute and is looking forward to starting the school year and getting to know the students. The Midvale School District is located in Washington County and is 100 miles north of Boise along Highway 95. The population within the city limits is 147 and the current school enrollment (grades Kindergarten through 12th grade) is 124. “I’m excited to start figuring out what the kids like to read and start piquing their interest in different titles,” she said.

The Cambridge Library, the Midvale School District and the Midvale Public Library have all been working on automating their collections and Robin will continue to work on that project as the school librarian. “The challenge will be that now I’m in charge of the school side of things I have to know a lot, but it will be great to have all three libraries in that area automated,” Robin said. She will



also be serving as the courier in the area since she has to drive back and forth from her home in Cambridge to Midvale every day.

Robin’s favorite children’s book is *Mr. Putter and Tabby Pour the Tea* by Cynthia Rylant and she is currently reading a young adult novel, *The People of Sparks* by Jeanne DuPrau. When Robin isn’t working, she enjoys being with family and friends.





Library to Library

Priscilla Sisson is the librarian at Popplewell Elementary School in Buhl. She works closely with the Buhl Public Library and the Buhl Reading Foundation to promote reading and literacy whenever she can. We caught up to her at the Future's Think Tank and she shared some information about a Family Literacy Program she has been involved with for several years.

Priscilla works with volunteers at the school to mail a newborn baby packet to every family they can locate that has recently given birth. Each packet contains a book, information about the public library, and early literacy and language tips and brochures. Not only do they send out the newborn packet, but Priscilla tracks each baby's birth date every year until the child goes to school. They receive a free book on their birthday! "Some of the kids show up at kindergarten and they give me a hug and say, 'You're the one who sent me my books!'" Priscilla says it's a great program, and since she works with volunteers from the PTO and the school pays for the mailings, it is well worth the time to get those books into the hands of young children. She said the program has been funded by the Buhl Reading Foundation and they are low on funds so she's seeking other funding sources, but hopes to continue the program indefinitely. *Thanks for sharing this great program idea!*



Young Adult Corner

The Idaho State Library is sponsoring a one-day **"Power Up with Print" Institute presented by YALSA, the Young Adult Library Services Association.** We still have openings at all three locations (Nampa on September 15, Idaho Falls on September 16, and Coeur d'Alene on September 19). The Nampa and Idaho Falls slots are filling up fast, so reserve your spot today by registering online at www.lili.org/events or print out the [pdf registration flyer](#) and fax it in!

We thought it might be helpful to provide a little information about YALSA and the resources they have for both youth services librarians in public libraries and school libraries.

YALSA was established in 1957 as a division of the American Library Association. This national organization produces booklists, guidelines, displays

and exhibits; sponsors conference programs and preconference workshops; and develops major initiatives relating to library service for young adults.

Major Initiatives and Highlights:

- Established the "**Serving the Underserved: Customer Services for Young Adults in Public Libraries**" **project**, begun in 1992, and have trained over 30,000 library staff to provide exemplary library services to young adults.
- Published revised **guidelines for library service to young adults**: *Directions for Library Service to Young Adults* (ALA, 1993).
- Developed several new **annual events**, including the **Great Book Giveaway** contest and **Teen Read Week**.
- Established new **book awards** honoring two outstanding YA librarians:
Margaret Alexander Edwards -- the **Alex Awards**
Michael L. Printz --the **Michael Printz Award**
- Developed a **web site for teens**, which provides a forum for book reviews and discussions about relevant issues as well as numerous links to other pertinent Internet sites of interest to teens.
- Revised and updated **Young Adults Deserve the Best: Competencies for Librarians Serving Young Adults**. This was the first revision since 1981 and in Past President Michael Cart's opinion, aided in "redefining the profession for the 21st century."
- Developed **resources for school library / public library cooperation**.

To become a member of YALSA and to access a wealth of resources, go to:
www.ala.org/yalsa.

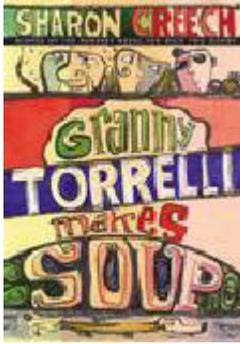
Book Look

Looking for some good books to recommend for 4th graders and up? The Pacific Northwest Library Association (PNLA) sponsors the **Young Readers Choice Award**. Now is the time to get kids reading the books nominated for the 2006 award (for books published in 2003) so they can vote between March 15 through April 1, 2006. Only 4th to 12th graders in the Pacific Northwest who have read at least two of the books are eligible to vote.

The Scoop will be featuring these books over the next several issues. For more about YRCA and to see the complete list of nominated books, go to www.pnla.org/yrca/2006nominees.htm.

Junior Division: 4th - 6th grade

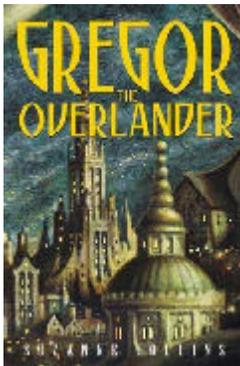
GRANNY TORRELLI MAKES SOUP by Sharon Creech



Twelve-year old Rosie struggles with her feelings about her best friend Bailey, who is blind. As she works with her grandmother preparing soup, Rosie talks about the ups and downs of their friendship. Granny relates a story about a similar friendship with her friend Parda, from the old country. Another plot element is introduced when a new girl moves into the neighborhood and also makes friends with Bailey. Granny and Pardo's story mirrors Rosie and Bailey's. The book weaves the stories from the two generations together. Granny's wisdom and advice help Rosie and provide savory ingredients for a delectable meal shared by memorable characters.

Visit the author's web site at: www.sharoncreech.com/index.html.

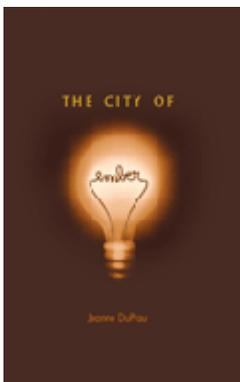
GREGOR THE OVERLANDER by Suzanne Collins



Distracted while babysitting his two-year-old sister Boots in a New York City apartment, Gregor discovers she has crawled into an air vent. In this action-packed fantasy story, Gregor follows her and is transported to a fantastic subterranean world called Underland, peopled by translucent humans and giant talking cockroaches, bats, spiders, and rats. Reluctantly, Gregor is transformed into a warrior and must battle an army of invading rats when he discovers his long lost father, who has been held captive in this underground world. Well written and fast-paced, this book will be gobbled up by young fantasy readers.

Intermediate Division: 7th - 9th grade

THE CITY OF EMBER by Jeanne DuPrau

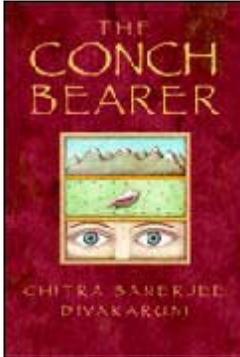


"Lights shine in the city of Ember—but at the city limits the light ends, and darkness takes over. Out there in the Unknown Regions, the darkness goes on forever in all directions. Ember—so its people believe—is the only light in the dark world.

And now the lights of the city are beginning to fail. Is there a way to save the people of Ember? No one knows. But Lina Mayfleet has found a puzzling document, and Doon Harrow has made discoveries down in the Pipeworks. With these clues, they start their search. *[from the author's web site:*

[www.jeanneduprau.com/.](http://www.jeanneduprau.com/)]

THE CONCH BEARER by Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni

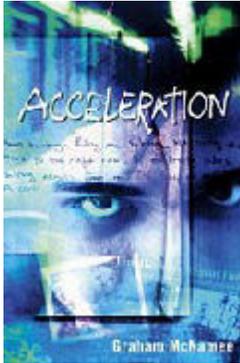


A classic quest story set in present day India follows the adventures of 12-year-old Anand as he seeks to return a magical conch shell to its rightful home in the Himalayas. The story is filled with sights, sounds and smells of an exotic locale and features richly drawn characters. The action, adventure, magic and self-discovery will appeal to middle school readers who will savor this unique fantasy book.

Visit the author's web site at: <http://www.chitradivakaruni.com/>

Senior Division: 10th - 12th grade

ACCELERATION by Graham McNamee



Discovering a journal at the Toronto Transit Lost and Found where he works, 17-year-old Duncan becomes intrigued with the owner, a would-be serial killer who has written of horrendous crimes he has committed. After being rebuffed by the police, Duncan becomes obsessed with tracking the killer down. He enlists two friends and they embark on a mission to find the killer before he can kill again. After a slow build up, the action kicks in and the book morphs into a page-turner.

For more books by this author, see his web site at: <http://www.grahamsbooks.com/home.html>.

Upcoming Events

Banned Books Week 2005 begins September 24. If you plan on purchasing a Banned Books Week kit this year, order it by September 7 to help ensure you receive it by September 24. For more resources, see:

Banned Books Week <http://www.ala.org/bbooks>

Banned Books Week Kit <http://www.ala.org/bbooks/resource.html>

Other ways to help celebrate our freedom to read include:

Banned Books Week: Celebrating the Freedom to Read: Proclamation
<http://www.ala.org/ala/oif/bannedbooksweek/bbwlinks/bbwproclamation.htm>

Banned Books Bracelets
<http://www.ala.org/ala/oif/bannedbooksweek/bbwlinks/braceletsorderform.htm>

Action Guide, Suggested Activities
<http://www.ala.org/bbooks/actionguide.html>

Banned Books Week Press Kit

<http://www.ala.org/ContentManagement/ContentDisplay.cfm?ContentID=102682>



Summer Reading News

So far, over **68 Idaho libraries** have turned in their summer reading statistics showing that more than **25,000 children** registered for 2005 summer reading programs.

Our **goal this year is for 100 libraries to reach 30,000+ children**, so if you haven't sent in your evaluation form, go to: www.lili.org/read/summer/reading-connections-form.htm and enter your information online or print a form and fax it to the State Library at (208) 334-4016. Every number counts!



Twylla Rehder, the bookmobile branch manager for the Kootenai-Shoshone Area Libraries, sent us

some pictures of their bookmobile's Summer Reading costume. Summer readers and staff dressed up for a parade in Pinehurst. A great way to promote summer reading and have fun!



"Read for Your Library" Partners Bring More Kids to Summer Reading

Research shows that kids who read over the summer break do better in school when they return in the fall. This year the Idaho State Library sponsored "Read for your Library!" as an additional incentive for kids to participate in Summer Reading. This program also provided an opportunity for public libraries to collaborate with school libraries.

Funding allowed for 30 libraries, although 40 libraries applied. In order to participate, the school's principal and librarian and the public librarian agreed to:

- Set a goal for the number of K-3 students who would participate in Summer Reading,
- Submit the school's IRI scores with the application,
- Hold at least one Summer Reading program that included participation by the school principal and librarian,

- Hold at least two Summer Reading presentations targeting teachers and parents, and
- Evaluate the school's Summer Reading participation.

By participating in the program, both the public libraries and the school libraries received \$200 worth of books. An additional bonus of \$100 worth of books is being provided to the school libraries if the principal holds an assembly in the fall to recognize the Summer Reading participants.

During August, the Idaho State Library conducted a telephone survey of the public library participants to evaluate the program. The comments and suggestions received will be used in future planning. Several librarians would like to be able to start earlier in the spring because schools are so busy with testing and other end-of-the-year activities in May. Another frequent comment was that the principal and/or the school librarian changed jobs after the school year, thus making it difficult, if not impossible, to follow through with the project. Finding the time needed for the project was also mentioned.

There were several positive comments about the opportunity to collaborate with the school.

- “Everyone benefits from free books and it is a great way to partner with the school.”
- “Our library benefited from receiving the free books. The program challenged us to reach out to parents and teachers.”
- “I did not realize how little funding there is for school libraries. Also, the opportunity to go to the schools. This is a multilevel event because of reaching so many different groups. The books received have all been checked out.”
- “We are a small library so it helps to have books to encourage kids to read. These books were definitely what the kids wanted, but we could not have purchased because of our small budget. I would not have thought of making presentations to the school without the program. The contact with the school is beneficial to me.”
- “If you'd seen the excitement of the librarian and teachers – the entire school! Little schools and communities just don't get things like this. It also gave me an opportunity/incentive to get out into the school.”

[Thank you to Stephanie Kukay, State Library research librarian, for conducting the survey and writing this summary.]



School Zone

Back to school time provides a great opportunity to let students, teachers and administrators know more about **LiLI-D (Libraries Linking Idaho databases)**. It is easy to access by clicking on the [LiLI Portal](#) provided on the Idaho State Library's

website.

Here's a "sound bite" you might use for teachers and administrators:

"LiLI-D is a one-stop resource to help your students find, use and evaluate the information they need to make the grade in school and in life. Best of all, you can point your students to resources designed to support your lesson plans and written to your students' Lexile ranges. LiLI-D will find newspaper and magazine articles, reference books, relevant web sites, pictures, maps, radio and TV transcripts and audio and video clips." If you are looking for fresh ideas to provide teachers to liven up their classes, Learning Resources provide lesson plans and classroom activity links packaged for easy use. To access, just visit the LiLI portal and click on Learning Resources (one of the choices on the top menu bar). You can find more than 40 classroom-ready activities tied to Idaho Learning Standards.

Know the Numbers

In Idaho, there are 128,373 youth ages 12 to 17 (US Census data 2004). **How Idaho libraries will serve these teens in the 21st century** is a challenge facing both public and school libraries. The following research sheds some light on this issue.

(Excerpts from "Survey on Library Services for Children in Public Libraries," commissioned by the Office of Library Programs in the U.S. Department of Education, 1995. For more information, go to: <http://nces.ed.gov/surveys/frss/publications/95357/>.)

Reasons Young Adults Don't Use the Library

Competition from other activities leads a list of reasons librarians attribute to low library usage rates by some young adults in their communities; librarians in 74 percent of libraries indicate they believe this is a frequent or primary reason.

Lack of interest on the part of young people and lack of knowledge about library services were considered frequent or primary reasons that young adults do not use the library in 38 and 31 percent of libraries, respectively. Lack of transportation, although reported in only 13 percent of libraries as a frequent or primary reason, was seen as sometimes a reason by another 37 percent.

Librarians were less likely to consider lack of school assignments and neighborhood safety as frequent or primary reasons for lack of library use. Lack of school assignments was reported as a frequent or primary reason in only 8 percent of libraries (note, however, that another 24 percent indicated it was sometimes a reason. And while neighborhood safety was considered a frequent or primary reason in only 4 percent of libraries nationally, in 11 percent of libraries librarians

indicated that safety was a frequent or primary reason that some young adults did not use the library in urban areas.

Internal Barriers

According to librarians, the two major barriers to increasing services and resources for young adults in public libraries are insufficient library staff and insufficient services, resources and programs. Fifty-eight percent of librarians reported insufficient library staff, and 61 percent indicated that insufficient services, resources and programs were moderate or major barriers to increasing services and resources for young adults.

2020 vision A Closer Look: The Future of Idaho Libraries

Forty-three people from around the state converged at the Boise Doubletree Riverside in August to listen to science fiction writers, guest experts, and each other during the 2020 Vision Think Tank. One of the goals of the event was to prepare people for change through a shared experience of exploring the future. Another goal was to produce a draft shared vision statement for Idaho Libraries circa 2020.

The discussions about the future of Idaho libraries are ongoing through the 2020 Vision blog and in six regional meetings planned in September and October throughout the state. Public and school library staff are encouraged to participate in the blog and attend a regional meeting.

We asked participants who attended the Think Tank who work in school libraries or primarily in youth services positions to share their views about what they found most interesting or relevant to youth services from their perspective. With school starting up and people trying to catch up from being gone to attend the Think Tank, it was a busy time for people. The following people were able to respond with their thoughts about the experience:



Dylan Baker is a youth services assistant at the Ada Community Library. He also happened to be the youngest person who attended the Think Tank. "For me, all our work at the Think Tank balanced upon two questions posed to us by Dr. Joseph Janes, the founding director of the Internet Public Library. 'What is our value [as librarians] to society? And how do we articulate it?' Librarians of any variety tend to take for granted that we have an unquestionable, intrinsic value to society, yet have we really tried to define what that value is? And if we have managed to nail it down, is that definition

really suitable for the rapidly-changing future?"

"As Dr. Janes added, we librarians need to wrestle with finding answers to those questions, no matter how difficult it might be. If we don't, the answers made for us by others will likely imperil both librarians and the society we serve," Dylan observed.

Priscilla Sisson, elementary librarian at Popplewell Elementary in Buhl



said, "The Library Think Tank held in Boise was an exciting experience for this librarian! It helped me stretch out of my 'comfort zone' and think about what our patrons will need for their future information needs along with what I can do to help them now. Developing possible scenarios for the future drew my attention to what I could do now as a librarian to prepare for the exciting future in front of us. I'm anxious to get started on the little things I can do right now to help push us along the path!"

Norma Jean Sprouffske, Media Coordinator at the Caldwell School District,



had this to say about the experience, "Participating in the Think Tank for Idaho libraries' futures was well worth the three days. Presenters addressed the future with fascinating patterns and trends that will challenge us. So what did futurists, professors and science fiction writers leave for our pointy little brains to reflect upon? One speaker suggested that all types of libraries should address our public image as both critical and needed. Another futurist advised that we define our core goals and articulate the value of libraries. Others asked pointed questions such as: Are we truly preserving ideas? What is our role? Are distinctions between school, public and academic libraries important? What are we willing to let go (e.g., ready reference, "competition" with Google)? We listened to future developments in technology (e.g., organic print and digital versus analog materials), as well as to trends in Idaho for the next twenty-five years (e.g., international pressure will cause educational retooling)."

"Joseph Janes with the University of Washington stressed our focus on the needs of the young and hiring quality school library staff—he has serious concerns about haphazard hiring of school library professionals—who are important because they train students to be prepared for a future that doesn't yet exist. I think his final comment about librarianship is a truism and an anchor for our future, 'We are the profession that makes others better.' So, if as futurist Bruce Sterling mused, 'Libraries are faced with a crisis that previous generations of librarians never had,

but it can be a profound opportunity,' then Idaho libraries should take this opportunity to shape our vision for the future," Sprouffske said.

Stephanie Bailey-White, a projects coordinator at the State Library, noted that nearly all the speakers mentioned the role of libraries as promoters of early literacy and information literacy as continuing to be very important. Science-fiction writer Bruce Sterling said, "Literacy campaign should be job 1, 2, 3, 4 and on." A few other comments she found interesting and relevant to youth services:

"We can't expect people to drive 30 miles to get to a library."

"We need to do a better job of utilizing technology to further our mission."

"The scarce commodity is human attention."

Stephanie said she hopes more youth services staff will be able to attend the six meetings held around the state to continue discussion of the future of libraries. She also hopes we can continue to use the blog and *The Scoop* as a forum to discuss these important issues. Please contact the person listed under "Contact" by e-mail or phone to register to attend a meeting. See <http://www.lili.org/futures/> for more information about the process. Sites with less than 10 registrations 10 days before the meeting may be cancelled. A short session at the Idaho Library Association Annual Conference in Pocatello will also be held to gather input.

Meetings will be held in the following locations.

September 15, 9 a.m. - Noon, Red Lion Inn in Lewiston. Contact: Janice McPhearson, 882-3925, janicem@latahlibrary.org

September 16, 1 - 4 p.m. Bonners Ferry, Kootenai National Wildlife Refuge, see <http://kootenai.fws.gov/Maps/roadmapver.jpg> for a map. Contact: Joe Reiss, jreiss@cin.kcl.org, 773-1506

September 20, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Ketchum Community Library. Contact: Susan Tabor-Boesch, stabor-boesch@blaineschools.org, 578-5030

September 29, 9 a.m. - noon, Idaho Falls Shilo Inn. Contact: Kay Flowers, flowkay@isu.edu, 282-2997

September 30, 9 a.m. - noon, Pocatello Red Lion. Contact: Kay Flowers, flowkay@isu.edu, 282-2997

October 17, 2 - 5 p.m., Boise DoubleTree Riverside. Contact: Memo Cordova, 426-1270, memocordova@boisestate.edu



Tips & Tools

Fourteen volunteers and many staff members at the State Library worked over 70 hours to collate, stuff and mail over 1,800 **Idaho Family Reading Week packets** this week. They were mailed to every elementary school library, public library and over 1,300 people in the Read to Me database. If you didn't get your copy, please contact Stephanie or Peggy at the State Library and we'll get one to you!



A fun way to get kids interested in books and reading is to help them make their own book. A great resource web site is educator Susan Garlord's **Making Books with Children** at www.makingbooks.com/parentstips.html. The site contains several free projects as well as links to other relevant sites. One of the links goes to pop up master Robert Sabuda's **Making Pop-ups is Easy** at <http://robertsabuda.com/popmakesimple.asp>. This site provides free directions and templates for making a variety of pop-ups including a mouth pop up and various animal pop ups.

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