



Vol. 8 No. 1 – January 13, 2012

Published bi-monthly by [Read to Me](#), a service of the Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL)

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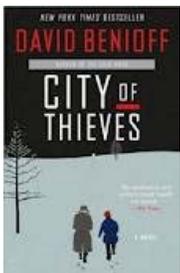
Welcome & Happy New Year!

Happy 2012! This is a lovely time of year for library staff. Most of us got to curl up with at least one good book during the holiday season, the buzz is building about the ALA youth book awards – to be announced on January 23, and there are some great “Best of 2011” booklists floating around with titles we can’t wait to check out. Check out the Book Look column in this issue for links to many of these lists. And what was your favorite book from 2011? Share your top pick(s) with the [Scoop editors](#) and we’ll send you a new title to add to your library. We’re also looking for winter programming ideas and libraries that are sponsoring a winter reading program. If you’re doing something fun this winter, share those ideas with other *Scoop* readers!

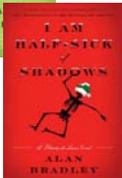
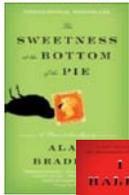
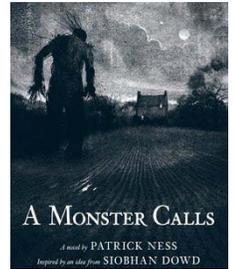
Here are some of our favorite books from 2011:



Stephanie has been enjoying [NPR’s Backseat Book Club](#) and just finished reading their December book *Breadcrumbs*, by Anne Ursu. This modern-day fairy tale is set in the snowy woods near Minneapolis and was a fun winter read. Her favorite title read in 2011 was *City of Thieves*, by David Benioff.



Erica has been devouring books this year, so she has lots of favorites. However, *A Monster Calls*, by Patrick Ness was fantastic, and she considers it one of the best books she has read for several years. She also enjoyed the fourth installment in the Eragon series, *Inheritance*, by Christopher Paolini. A new favorite for Erica and her (almost) six year old daughter Emily is *The Bippolo Seed and Other Lost Stories*, by Dr. Seuss. Some lost treasures that we are so glad they found!



And Staci has discovered Alan Bradley's British murder mystery series featuring 11-year-old Flavia de Luce. Flavia is an aspiring chemist with a passion for poison, and she uses her Ph. D.-level knowledge of chemistry to solve a murder in each book. Flavia lives in a decaying mansion in the English countryside, where she passive-aggressively battles with her two older sisters and conducts experiments in her lab that would turn a mother's hair white. "The books are great to read," Staci said, "but I would highly recommend listening to them. Jayne Entwistle's British accent and tongue-in-cheek performance of Flavia's escapades bring the characters and setting to life in a way that I don't think I would appreciate by reading the books with my own 'voice.'" The first in the series, *The Sweetness at the Bottom of the Pie*, is a Young Reader's Choice nominee. Staci is now listening to the fourth and most current title, *I Am Half-Sick of Shadows*.



Dates and Deadlines

- **January 13, 2012:** Today is the last day to register for the Teens and Technology Course. Read all about the course requirements on the [ICfL website](#). Or if you are ready to register, click one of the links below:
 - [January 19-20, Coeur d'Alene Workshop](#)
 - [January 26-27, Boise Workshop](#)
 - [January 30-31, Blackfoot Workshop](#)
 - [February 2-3, Gooding Workshop](#)
- **January 13 – February 26:** Register for the [RTM Annual Meeting](#), March 5-6, 2012, in Boise (see [A Closer Look](#) for details)
- **January 22:** Last day to complete the survey about Library Services and Technology Act funds. Please complete the survey and share the following survey link with other staff members in your library at www.surveymonkey.com/s/CommissionLSTA. This survey will take you about 15 minutes to complete. After completing the survey, you may enter a drawing for a \$25 gift card for a bookstore of your choice. We appreciate input on this topic.
- **February 29, 2012:** Deadline to submit PSA's for "[CSLP Teen Video Challenge](#)"
- **Read to Me meeting dates: March 5-6, 2012**
- **March 21, 2012:** Deadline to apply for [Bright Futures Outreach Opportunities](#)
- You can apply **anytime** for [Idaho Child Care Reads](#) and the [Jump Start Kindergarten](#) programs.

Library to Library



Happy Holidays @ Idaho Libraries



Wendell Public Library held a free ornament making program on December 19. The Library offered multiple choices of crafts, such as wreaths, candy canes, Santa turtles, snowflakes, and glitter-covered pine cones. "We had many happy kids!" reports staff member Trish Scarrow.

Jerome Public Library staff hosted many Christmas festivities in 2011. "On December 21st we invited tweens and teens to come warm up with some hot cocoa and ice cream while they make a gingerbread house to take home. We had a great turnout of seven tweens and teens who decorated some show-stopping houses...and really seemed to enjoy the ice cream in their hot cocoa!" Youth Services Coordinator Darbie Chocker said.

Darbie also reported that Santa made a very special visit to JPL on December 23. "We invited kids to come in for holiday treats and to see Santa himself! While they were waiting to see Santa we offered a Candy Cane Reindeer craft. Children loved making cute reindeer to take home and put on their tree...or eat later as an afternoon snack. We also held a Christmas coloring contest and the winners will be announced in January. We will be giving out a free book to a child in each age group. We had a spectacular attendance of 79 people!" she said.



That sounds like a great holiday season! *The Scoop* editors really like the idea of having a contest or something during your event and then awarding prizes the next month. That gets at least some of those families in the library doors on another occasion. Great ideas!



Community Library Network at Hayden Keeps Kids Reading Throughout the Year

The Community Library Network at Hayden has been a pioneer in outreach programming for over 10 years. "We have offered library books and storytimes to many underserved children and families," Children's Librarian Irma Anderl said. Examples of outreach programs include Tots & Tales, a program that provides board books for newborns and information for parents at the local hospital. The library also visits daycares each month, leaving collections of 15 books every month plus a story time and craft project. They do regular monthly story times at the Kinder Center, and finally monthly events at the local Farmer's Market with free books, crafts and a puppet show. In December they provided free books, Santa crafts, and library information to all who attended.

Young Adult Corner



Teens and Technology Workshops

Have you signed up for the Teens and Technology workshops yet? **If not, today is the last day.** Go [here](#) to see all the details about this year's unique opportunity and register to participate. The final workshop has been moved to April 6 instead of March 30 due to Spring Breaks around the state. Hopefully this will allow you to register! Have questions? Call or [email](#) Erica and she will be happy to help!



Teen Tech Week



Are you hosting a Teen Tech Week this year? If so, **please register** your event with us so we can collect valuable data on teen programming and participation. For completing a very short registration form (and even shorter follow up form), we will send you at least one ALA Teen Tech Week poster (more if we have them!) **AND** you will be entered into drawings for other great resources such as hardcover YA books, branded flash drives, and other neat stuff.

We also encourage you to register your event [at the national ALA site](#) so we can show everyone the innovative programs you are offering to teens across Idaho.



Call Me the Pie-brarian – Erica Littlefield's article in *School Library Journal*



If you haven't read Erica's article in SLJ, you can read it now by clicking the link above. And check out how many great book reviews she received from Twin Falls Public Library teens! Great job Erica!



YA Lit Book Release Dates website

Are your teens dying to know when Cassandra Clare's next novel is due to be published? Will James Patterson write another *Maximum Ride* book? Find out the answers to both of these questions and so many more on this website.



The Hub Writing Contest

Here's a fun little creative writing exercise. You choose one title from a list of titles and write a short synopsis of a YA story that would use that title (an example is included on the site), sort of in the spirit of [NPR's three-minute fiction contest](#).

A shortlist will be selected from all of the entries by the Hub bloggers, and readers will vote on the shortlist in January. To the victor go the spoils—and boy, do you really get some spoils. The winner will receive the trophy which is a 100 percent solid metal monkey paperweight (pictured here). But you don't get to keep it forever: you'll have to send it to the winner of the next



contest. (If there is a next contest.) But wait, there's more: you will also receive a genuine prize from YALSA, a 2012 Printz Calendar. Good luck!



CSLP Teen Video Challenge

Are your kids ready to roll out their video cams? Then be sure to tell them about the Collaborative Summer Library Program's (CSLP) "2012 Teen Video Challenge," a national video competition that encourages kids to get involved with their public library's summer reading program.



School Zone



Freebies for Science Teachers, from the NSTA

The National Science Teachers Association has hundreds of links to free resources that help teach science concepts. Here are just a few examples:

Online Science Lectures

At this USGS website, teachers can access a collection of more than 100 videotaped lectures given at USGS facilities. Appropriate for students in grades 8–college, the lectures cover 18 science disciplines—from Atmosphere and Weather to Volcanoes—and address a wide range of topics.

A Student's Guide to Global Climate Change

A new EPA website, educates students in grades 6–8 about Earth's climate and how it is changing as a result of burning fossil fuels and other human activities.

NPPy: Big Planet, Little Bear

This animated video series shows the importance of Earth science and climate studies to grades 3–5. Starring NPPy, a curious polar bear cub interested in Earth science, the series aims to generate interest in NASA's National Polar-orbiting Operational Environmental Satellite System Preparatory Project (NPP).



Upcoming Events



Take Your Child to the Library Day, February 4, 2012

Children's Librarian Nadine Lipman from Waterford, Connecticut, has declared the first Saturday of February as "Take Your Child to the Library Day" - February 4, 2012. All libraries are encouraged and welcome to participate. You can add your library as a participant at <http://takeyourchildtothelibrary.blogspot.com/>. Many libraries are already planning programs and ideas for events, displays, and more will be posted on the blog.



Valentine's Day is February 14th. Here's how one library celebrated last year:

Broken hearts celebrated at Anti-Valentine's Day party

A free Anti-Valentine's party was held at the Zion-Benton Public Library in Illinois last year, grabbing the attention of teens. They came to play games, make crafts, nibble on snacks and generally enjoy the fun of a different kind of celebration for two hours. Sara Torrez, coordinator of the event, said sometimes the best way to grab the attention of young people is to do what they least expect. In this instance, it seemed to work. Fifteen teenagers showed up.

Though the three-inch diameter buttons handed out to teens as they entered the community room at the library said Happy Valentine's Day!, a closer look revealed a motionless cupid lying on its stomach, a red arrow shot through its back.

Heart cookie decorating -- always a fun way to enjoy the lovely holiday. But at this event, they were "broken heart" cookies. One of the participants frosted the treat with chocolate-brown icing and made criss-crosses all over it, then sprinkled it with blue sugar. As the once-popular song Love Stinks played in the background, kids lined up to take a shot at cupid's heart with darts. Others drew graffiti on giant covers of romance novels, while some made Anti-Valentine's cards and buttons. Computers were set up featuring games opposed to Valentine's Day.

Another idea: Other libraries celebrate by inviting kids to make Valentine's cards for seniors. Some are able to drop the cards off with their senior outreach program directors or provide them for their homebound patrons.



February 29 – Celebrate Leap Year with a Leaping-Fun Storytime

Year 2012 is a leap year, and has 366 days. Leap years generally occur every four years. What a great excuse to do something special with stories, songs, and rhymes about hopping, jumping, and, of course, leaping. Here are a few resources to get you started:

- www.leapyearday.com/content/kids-page
- <http://1234morestorytimes.wordpress.com/2011/05/05/storytime-jump/>
- www.squidoo.com/FrogUnitStudy
- http://elementarylibraryroutines.wikispaces.com/file/view/WCLS+2010+Theme_Handbook.pdf
- [Movement ideas for preschoolers at www.extension.iastate.edu/publications/pm1359b.pdf](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/publications/pm1359b.pdf)



Money Smart Week® @Your Library on April 21-28, 2012

After a successful first year in 2011, with libraries in over 30 states participating, the American Library Association is again partnering with the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago for Money Smart Week @ Your Library in 2012.



Money Smart Week's mission is to promote personal financial literacy. Libraries of all types have participated in Money Smart Week, partnering with community groups, financial institutions, government agencies, educational organizations and other financial experts to help consumers learn to better manage their personal finances. Money Smart Week @ Your Library coincides with National Financial Literacy Month.

Check out the [library partner tools](#) which contain the library partner kit, sign up forms, downloadable logos, marketing materials, online calendar, discussion forum, checklists, surveys and more. You'll also find resources and programming ideas to make it easy for you to participate as an individual library, or as part of larger regional or statewide efforts. So whether you are a public, school, academic or special library, you can be part of Money Smart Week @ Your Library. You can also view an [archived webinar](#) with more information.



YRCA Nominees for 2013 due January 31

From Joy Lear, Star and Hidden Springs Branch Libraries, jlear@adalib.org

If you wish to nominate a title or two, I will need the following information: the title, author, publication date (must be 2010), division nomination to be placed in (Juvenile, Intermediate or Senior), and a note if it is a Canadian title (written by a Canadian author or taking place in Canada). Please remember the current rules state that if it is part of a series, it must be the first book in the series.

The voting for 2012 nominations will be coming soon – March 15 through April 15, 2012. Joy will be sending out ballot forms on LibIdaho for public and school libraries to promote.



Tips & Tools



Consider Participating in the Summer Food Service Program

*Join the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) to learn more about how you can help feed children during summer and hear the benefits to being a part of the Summer Food Service Program! **Jerome Public Library** has participated in this program and it's been a good experience for them.*

USDA 2012 Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) Introductory Webinars are offered:

- Tuesday, 1/24, 6 – 7 p.m. EST
- Thursday, 2/2, 11 a.m. – noon EST
- Thursday, 2/23, 3 – 4 p.m. EST

Registration Link: <http://vovici.com/wsb.dll/s/17fb9g4d8da>

These webinar sessions are designed to provide a high level overview of the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP). Every “Introductory” webinar session will cover the same content. Following the overview of the SFSP, the session will cover resources and tools available to help get started with the SFSP, successful outreach practices and tips, next steps and how to get involved, and then the session will open for questions and answers with USDA FNS staff.

These sessions will be available via Microsoft Office LiveMeeting (Webinar) and are **free** for all participants. You will need access to a phone line and a computer with internet access for this webinar. To participate, please complete the online registration. Further information will be forthcoming to registered participants. You must register to receive additional information. Connection instructions will be sent prior to the session for which you register to the email address you provide in the registration.

If you are interested but unable to attend one of these sessions, please register to participate in one of the other sessions in the series. There will be additional sessions added to the schedule in the near future. Please check the registration page for additional sessions. Each session in this series will cover the same content. All sessions will be recorded and posted online and on-demand soon following the completion of the webinar. All sessions will be posted at www.summerfood.usda.gov.

If you have any questions, please contact: Emily Buckham Buday at Emily.buday@fns.usd



Apply for Free Books

The Literacy Empowerment Foundation, a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, invites your school or other literacy project to apply for FREE books for Read Across America Day. During the past year, LEF has distributed over 3,000,000 books to schools all across the country for Read Across America Day and other literacy projects. Resources are allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. Orders must be received by February 11th, 2012.



Would you like your school to win up to \$10,000?

Then check out the Science Teachers Association's [ExploraVision Awards Program](#), which encourages kids to use their imaginations and scientific tools to create and explore the technology of the future. Teachers can win a Toshiba tablet, and the school that submits the most projects is eligible to win a bonus classroom prize package. The ExploraVision Awards Program is open to students in grades K-12. But you'd better get a move on—the deadline is February 1, 2012.



Libri Foundation Grants Due January 23

The next round of Libri Foundation grants will be awarded January 31, 2012, and the application deadline is January 23. The Libri Foundation is a nationwide non-profit organization which donates new, quality, hardcover children's books to small, rural public libraries in the United States through its Books for Children program.

You are encouraged to apply if you meet the qualifications of being a public library in a rural area, have a limited operating budget, and have an active children's department. In general, county libraries should serve a population under 16,000 and municipal libraries should serve a population under 10,000 (usually under 5,000). Schools without access to public library services can also qualify.

The next grant round will be in May. If you'd like the books in time for your summer reading program, now is the time to apply. For the application form and all details, go to www.librifoundation.org/apps.html.



ALA's "Every Child Ready to Read" Facebook page

If you are on Facebook you might want to "like" the Every Child Ready to Read Facebook page at www.facebook.com/everychild. This week, there was an announcement that a **Facebook Forum with Saroj Ghoting** will be hosted on that page on Wednesday, January 18, at 1 p.m. Central Time (2 p.m. Eastern). This is being described as an "informative hour-long conversation about the Every Child Ready to Read products and early literacy."



Summer Reading News



Bright Futures Outreach: School Visits

Bright Futures School Visits is the third outreach opportunity the Commission offers to publicly-funded public libraries in Idaho. The goal of this program is to promote library summer reading programs to school-age children. We know that kids who don't read over the summer lose some of the gains made in reading during the school year, and low-income kids in grades K-4 tend to lose the most. It's critical that we keep our kids reading over the summer.

The School Visits program is designed to encourage partnerships between the school and public library and get kids excited to participate in summer reading. Some libraries register students on-the-spot and some provide take-home information. Comments from 2011 participating libraries were very positive; staff reported seeing lots of backpacks in the library over the summer and the majority of libraries saw an increase in program participation. Only public library staff may apply for this program.

Due to wide-spread requests to include older kids, we have extended the program to include middle school/junior high students. However, research suggests that in order to close the achievement gap and counter summer learning loss, we need to invest in programs targeting young school-age children. The materials we provide for this program are chosen and designed with this age group in mind. *At this time we are not targeting preschool children.*

To participate in School Visits, simply contact your local public elementary and/or middle school principals, make an appointment to visit the school(s) to promote the library's summer reading program, and tell us how many children are enrolled in the school(s). We'll send you these great drawstring backpacks that you can stuff with your library's summer reading information and/or registration forms to give to the students. Classroom visits, assemblies and field trips to the public library all count as school visits. There is no limit on partner schools, but the materials are **only available for public school children grades K- middle school.**

Once our supply is depleted we can no longer accept applications. Please make arrangements with your schools now and **apply** as soon as possible. You may apply for School Visits and Underserved Children using the same application form. **Deadline is March 21, 2012.**

To see a chart of current applicants, please visit our main summer reading webpage and click on "2011 List of Bright Futures Applicants": <http://libraries.idaho.gov/landing/summer-reading>



They're baaacckk...

We got such great feedback about the Bright Futures backpacks last year that we decided to Dream Big and offer them again. This year's design features original artwork from ICfL's Ben Bibikov, and includes a reflective strip at the bottom. Look for our new little owl on more Read to Me resources in the future!



Summer Reading Public Service Announcements: Free copies available to order now



As CSLP members our state is allowed to order a limited supply of PSA promotional materials for free from the CSLP for the Children's ***Dream Big-READ!*** 2012 summer program. The PSAs are each 30 seconds in length and produced in English and Spanish. The PSA will also be available for viewing and downloading free of charge for members from the CSLP website (all public libraries in Idaho are "members"). Shipment of the PSAs will be in the spring of 2012. (Remember, Teen PSAs are created through the [CSLP Video Challenge](#).)

There are several choices of format:

VHS Video Tape

VHS CONTINUOUS Loop Tape

DVD disk

**BETACAM

**Digi-BETA

**DVC-Pro

*** Before ordering, please contact your television stations to make sure which format works with their equipment.*

If your library would like to order a free PSA please respond to me by January 17 and specify your format choice. Requests will be ordered on a first-come first-served basis, and our free allotment is limited.

Your library can also order additional PSAs from Upstart. A separate order form and price list will be added to the CSLP ordering website. These orders will be shipped and billed directly to the individual libraries.

If you have any questions, please contact [Staci](#).

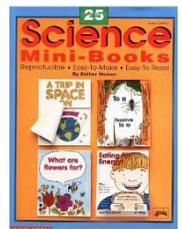


Summer Reading Program Idea: *sent in by Francine Rudeen from the American Falls District Library*

Reproducible science mini-books: This is a great way to foster reading through a child's natural interest in science. We like to have at least one science activity at each Summer Reading program, and these books make an easy and fun center.

We make a reproducible book for each child to read, color, and take home. We place them in an activity center that can be supplemented with science displays that relate to the theme of the book. The books are easy to make and require only one sheet of paper each.

This year we will use "Nature at Night, Animal Adaptations" and "Connect the Dots, Constellations" from the Scholastic book *25 Science Mini-Books*, by Esther Weiner. ISBN 0-590-49507-0. This book and many others are also available through Amazon.



Thanks for sharing, Francine! We invite all libraries to send in SRP ideas, and we'll send you a thank you book for your collection...

A Closer Look at the Spring Read to Me Meeting

Read to Me Annual Meeting, March 5 – 6, 2012

For the past fifteen years, the Idaho Read to Me program has brought together library staff from around the state who are actively reaching out to Idaho families to promote early literacy, or who would like to begin early literacy outreach efforts. The 2012 annual Read to Me meeting will provide a forum to celebrate our accomplishments in early literacy and outreach, and work together to bring new and exciting programs and practices to libraries throughout Idaho.

Whether you or your staff members are experienced in early literacy programming or just starting out, you'll find the agenda is full of fun and exciting ideas, research-based best practices, and program opportunities that will benefit the young children, families, and child care providers in your community.

Date: Monday and Tuesday, March 5 and 6, 2012

Location: Oxford Suites, Boise

Cost: There is no registration fee, and lunch will be provided on both days. Travel and lodging are provided for up to two staff members per library. Participants are responsible for making their own travel arrangements and will be reimbursed at the state rate (see [Travel Information](#)).

AGENDA

Monday, March 5, 2012, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

9:00 – Registration

9:30 Welcome and introductions

Morning activities will include a celebration of 15 years of Read to Me, and project coordinators will share where the program is headed for the future. Then we'll follow-up on Enhanced Storytimes, which we introduced at last year's meeting. Dr. Roger Stewart will share the results from the study we did last spring, and we'll do some hands-on activities and table-sharing. We'll wrap up the morning session with Child Care Outreach. Whether you're just getting started or ready to take your outreach to a higher level, you'll appreciate hearing success stories from other libraries and learning about the resources RTM has available this year.

During lunch we'll take a "virtual bus tour" around the state to see how libraries are implementing best practices in early literacy. There will also be time for libraries to network and share ideas.

Get ready to play in the afternoon! We'll begin with research about children's access to print materials, then narrow the focus to how libraries can incorporate literacy concepts into different types of children's play. We'll hear from libraries who are working together to create and share play literacy resources, you'll receive some resources to help your library get started, we'll discuss funding sources, and we'll wrap up with hands-on activities and table sharing.

Optional evening activities: Library tour and dinner, 5:15 – 7 p.m.

Meeting attendees and their families/friends are invited to tour the Boise Public Library's Cole and Ustick branch. After the tour, feel free to walk across the way to Sockeye Grill, where we've reserved the banquet room for a "no host" dinner. See a menu at www.sockeyebrew.com. Transportation/carpools will be arranged earlier in the day.

Tuesday, March 6, 2012, 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

8:30 – Light breakfast, welcome and announcements

The morning session will be facilitated by Linda Clark, a nationally-recognized early childhood specialist from Bozeman, Montana. Linda will demonstrate how to incorporate math and

science concepts into storytimes and play spaces, and she will share some ideas for Block Play.

During lunch Shannon Dunstan, Idaho State Department of Education's Early Childhood Coordinator, will share information about how libraries can partner with developmental preschool programs.

After lunch Stephanie Bailey-White will share about some new programs in the works, and how libraries can support "Access for All Kids." After a short break participants can choose to attend one of two breakout sessions:

- *Books and Babies.* Cindy Christin, Head of Children's Services at Bozeman Public Library, will present how to get started with or improve existing lapsit programs for babies and toddlers.
- *Small and Rural Libraries.* On the RTM meeting evaluations each year participants ask for some time to address the challenges of small and rural libraries in regard to early literacy programs and outreach. This year Stephanie will facilitate a discussion of how small and rural libraries can "dream big".

We'll come back together to share out, debrief, and evaluate the meeting; and we'll end by 3:30 p.m. so folks can catch flights and get on the road.

We hope you will consider joining us this year! Seats are limited, so register now. Registration closes **February 26.**

[Click here to register!](#)

If you have questions about the Annual Read to Me early literacy meeting, contact staci.shaw@libraries.idaho.gov.



CE News You Can Use



Credible Connections

What are the burning issues in your community? Economic Development? Jobs? Education? The Idaho Commission for Libraries through its online@yourlibrary grant project and in collaboration with Idaho Department of Labor and Adult Basic Education (PTE) will be hosting a two-hour session in a community near you to allow you to connect with individuals who have resources to address those burning issues. Join in the conversation and get connected with the resources that will make a difference for your library, your community.

This event is open to all library staff – bring with you local leaders who are trying to connect with resources to enhance the development of your community. This is a great opportunity to learn, connect, and develop your first action step.

Door Prize Drawings for iPod Nano or USB WiFi Card – Tools you can use to create a community-enhancing quality of life through education, economic and workforce development.

Go to <http://libraries.idaho.gov/credibleconnections> for more information on locations, dates and registration. Space will be limited, so register early.



Consider Going to the Public Library Association (PLA) Conference

The PLA Conference will be held March 14-17, 2012, in Philadelphia, PA. There are some GREAT youth services sessions being offered this year. Check out the offerings and information at <http://placonference.org/>.

The Idaho Commission for Libraries offers LSTA Continuing Education First-Time Conference Attendee Grants to individuals employed by Idaho publicly-funded libraries. For more information, please contact Shirley Biladeau, Continuing Education Consultant, at 208-334-2150. All grant applications are due at least 45 days in advance of the event so you need to get your application in **by January 27, 2012**, to qualify.



Scout Training Offered this Month

Join Kris Freeland, Idaho Public Television, as she takes us on a tour of the latest resource for the residents of Idaho from the online @ your library grant. What is Scout you ask? Well it's not your favorite puppy, however it may become your best friend, especially if you are an Idaho student, teacher, or librarian! Through Scout, Idaho residents will have access to thousands of video resources through Scout, Classroom Edition and Scout, Idaho Edition.



At Scout, Classroom Edition you can search or browse to find short video, animations, and more—for every school subject. Idaho teachers and students have immediate access to more than 14,000 research-based instructional resources—including videos, interactives, images, audio files, mobile apps, lesson plans, and worksheets.

Scout, Idaho Edition offers full-length programs from Idaho Public Television. Choose from Adventure, History, People & Culture, Places, Natural Resource Issues, Science, and Wild Things— programs that celebrate the people, places, plants, and animals of Idaho and examine Idaho's history and some of the issues facing the state.

Access to PBS LearningMedia for the Scout, Classroom Edition portion of the service and the Scout, Idaho Collection are both provided by Idaho Public Television. Funding for Scout is provided in part by: Idaho Commission for Libraries, IdahoPTV, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and Broadband USA.

So now that I have piqued your interest, here are the dates and times for the live Introductory Tour:

- **January 25 – 3-4 PM MT (2-3 PM PT)**
- **January 30 – 4-5 PM MT (3-4 PM PT)**

Come join Kris and Shirley at <http://icfl.adobeconnect.com/online/>

We are using Adobe Connect online meeting platform. If you have not used Adobe Connect previously, test your computer to make sure it is set up appropriately by going to: http://icfl.adobeconnect.com/common/help/en/support/meeting_test.htm . A sound check will be completed only if you arrive 30 minutes prior to the session. The session will be recorded and available for viewing at a later date. If you have any questions, contact **Shirley Biladeau**, ICfL Continuing Education Consultant, at shirley.biladeau@libraries.idaho.gov



Multicultural Connections



America Reads Spanish and the American Library Association Launch the Días de Cine Reading Club at American Libraries

The Días de Cine Reading Club is an initiative sponsored by the America Reads Spanish program and the American Library Association to promote Spanish language literature in American libraries and universities. The original and entertaining format involves free viewing of cinematic adaptations of literary works included in the program's collection of titles via the Internet.

The program is offered at no cost for U.S. libraries and universities. To participate, libraries simply have to register and send the form provided at the America Reads Spanish website. Then you will receive an exclusive user password via e-mail. This password will allow you to enjoy, legally and free of charge, public viewing of the movie of the week via online streaming in you library or university. The only requirements are a computer and an Internet connection.

Every week a new movie (see Movie List in the America Reads Spanish website) will be made available for group viewing at a library or university. The user password authorizes the library or university to watch the film of the week whenever is decided during that week (with a maximum of five viewings per week). This will allow librarians to plan their reading or viewing group schedule on the day and hour most suitable to their needs.

Read all about this opportunity [HERE](#).



Did you know that **LiLi.org** has a few databases specifically in Spanish for your Spanish Language users? Go to <http://lili.org/espanol> to find:

- Enciclopedia Estudiantil Hallazogs – a World Book Online database
- Fuente Academica – for school research
- MedicLatina – for medical reference

In addition, most databases available through LiLi.org have translation features so users can translate results into Spanish or a number of other languages. Put a link directly to lili.org/espanol for your Spanish speaking users.



January 2012 is full of new releases featuring people of color for middle grade and young adult readers. Check out this blog for the list:

<http://campbele.wordpress.com/2012/01/02/new-books-january-2012/>



Know the Numbers

Idaho Ranks Low on College and Career Readiness Indicators

- Nearly one in four Idaho students fails to graduate from high school with a regular diploma in four years. (Alliance for Excellent Education, "Education and the Economy: Boosting Idaho's Economy by Improving High School Graduation Rates," March 2011, www.all4ed.org/files/Idaho_seb.pdf)
- Idaho ranks 46th of all states in college completion at 22.3 percent. (2009 American Community Survey (Census Bureau), cited in 2010 Grad Nation Index provided by Johns Hopkins University's Everyone Graduates Center, www.every1graduates.org)
- Nearly 5,800 students did not graduate from Idaho's high schools in 2010; the lost lifetime earnings in Idaho for that class of dropouts alone totals over \$1.5 billion. (Alliance for Excellent Education, "The High Cost of High School Dropouts," www.all4ed.org)
- Children who start school behind tend to stay behind. Idaho Reading Indicator scores from 2010 show 18 percent of children entering kindergarten did not recognize three or more letters of the alphabet. Another 25 percent recognized fewer than 11. (Idaho State Department of Education)
- A student within the age range of 16 to 24 years of age who comes from the lowest quartile of family income is about seven times more likely to have dropped out of high school than his/her counterpart who comes from the highest quartile. (Alliance for Excellent Education High School Dropouts in America Fact Sheet, updated September 2010)
- Idaho has a high percentage of families living in poverty. In 2010, 55 percent of infants born in Idaho received Women Infant Children (WIC) services. (WIC Statistics, Idaho Division of Public Health, Bureau of Vital Records and Health Statistics) In 2011-2012, over 50 percent of Idaho public school children were eligible for free and reduced school lunch. (Idaho State Department of Education)

Read more about this topic in the latest issue of the *Idaho Librarian*, <http://theidaholibrarian.wordpress.com/2011/11/23/college-and-career-ready-working-together-for-idaho/>

Book Look



Great Early Elementary Reads Booklist Released

Great news! ALSC has revised its popular bibliography, "Great Early Elementary Reads," which features recommended book titles for beginning readers. PDFs of the book list are available online in full color and black and white at www.ala.org/alsc/compubs/booklists/greatreads/greatearlyelemreads and are free to download, copy, and distribute.

This updated bibliography, organized into two categories: "Starting to Read" and "Reading on My Own," includes books published between 2009 and 2011, and the titles were selected, compiled and annotated by members of the 2011-2012 ALSC School-Age Programs and Services Committee.



The-end-of-the-year best book lists are out. See if you agree!

As a ramp-up to naming the 10 best of the year, the [New York Times](http://www.nytimes.com) released its annual long-long list of Notable Books. [Publisher's Weekly](http://www.pw.org) staff picked the unforgettable books that stayed with them this year. NPR's first five best book lists range from mysteries to cookbooks. Lists will be added throughout December.

The [Goodreads](#) website ranks the top 100 books chosen by readers. [Amazon](#) editors cast ballots for Best Books of the Year based on reviews, customer feedback and their own assessment of the best books in almost a dozen categories.

Free App for Best Books

Publisher's Weekly [app](#) for its 2011 best books guide includes an interactive presentation of the magazine's 100 top picks. See books listed by genre and access PW's archives for reviews, interviews, and author profiles.

(Thanks to our friends at the [West Bloomfield Township Public Library](#) for sharing these tips)

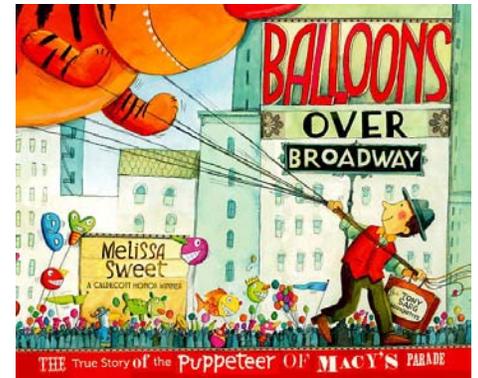


Booklist has picked their best of 2011

Youth Nonfiction

Balloons over Broadway: The True Story of the Puppeteer of Macy's Parade, written and illustrated by Melissa Sweet (Houghton)

"This is a picture book about the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, but that's on the macro level. There is also a wonderfully personal story here as Sweet introduces Tony Sarg, a boy who loved puppets and grew up to create them for one of the world's most famous parades. . . . A joyous piece of nonfiction that informs and delights in equal parts." —Ilene Cooper, *Booklist*, September 15, 2011



Youth Fiction

A Monster Calls, by Patrick Ness (Candlewick)

"As Conor watches his mother succumb to cancer, he is pummeled by grief, anger, isolation, helplessness, and something even darker. . . . A story with such moribund inevitability could easily become a one-note affair, but small, surgically precise cuts of humor and eeriness provide a crucial magnifying effect. Moreover, Ness twists out a resolution that is revelatory in its obviousness, beautiful in its execution, and fearless in its honesty." —Ian Chipman, *Booklist*, July 2011

Youth Picture Book

Me . . . Jane, written and illustrated by Patrick McDonnell (Little, Brown)

"Little Jane loves her stuffed animal, a chimpanzee named Jubilee, and carries him everywhere she goes. . . . With the story's last page turn, the illustrations change from ink-and-watercolor scenes of Jane as a child, toting Jubilee, to a color photo of Jane Goodall as a young woman in Africa, extending her hand to a chimpanzee. . . . This remarkable picture book is one of the few that speaks, in a meaningful way, to all ages." —Carolyn Phelan, *Booklist*, March 15, 2011

See more of their lists at www.booklistonline.com/home .

Mock Award Winners

The official Newbery and Caldecott award announcements from the American Library Association will be Monday, January 23, at the Dallas Convention Center during the Midwinter Annual meeting. Catch the buzz and listen in live at www.facebook.com/alayma. Here are the titles others are picking in "Mock Award" discussions held in Idaho and around the nation.

Ada Community's Picks

The Ada Community's Victory Branch Library hosted their annual Mock Caldecott Tea last month. The group of public and school library staff selected *Blackout*, by John Rocco as their winner. First runner-up was *Perfect Square*, by Michael Hall. Two titles tied for second runner-up: *Swirl* by Joyce Sidman, Illustrated by Beth Krommes and *Soccer Hour*, by Carol Nevius. *Symphony City*, by Amy Martin and *A Nation's Hope: The Story of Boxing Legend Joe Louis*, by Matt de la Pena and illustrated by Kadir Nelson also received many votes.

Attendees at the tea are featured at the right holding some of the great books they got to discuss.



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

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