
The Idaho Commission for Libraries assists libraries to build the capacity to better serve their clientele.

NEWS RELEASE

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Celebrating Idaho's Literary Heritage at the National Book Festival in D.C.

The Idaho Commission for Libraries will celebrate Idaho's literary heritage at the 15th annual National Book Festival. The Festival, sponsored by the Library of Congress, will be held Saturday, September 5, 2015 at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center in Washington, D.C. Last year tens of thousands of attendees explored the Festival, which featured bestselling authors, poets, and illustrators. The U. S. Institute of Museum and Library Services sponsors the Festival's "Pavilion of the States" to celebrate reading and the literary traditions of the 50 states, District of Columbia, and U.S. territories. At Idaho's table in the Pavilion, Commission staff members will visit with attendees and share information about how Idaho promotes reading, literacy, and books.

Idaho's featured book at this year's Festival is Pulitzer Prize-winner Anthony Doerr's *All the Light We Cannot See*, a novel that weaves together the parallel stories of a blind French girl and a German boy whose paths cross during World War II in occupied France. "Book festivals are wonderful places to discover titles and hear the stories behind the stories," said Doerr. "A good book, to me, is far more than just a book. It becomes part of who I am, and the experiences of its people become entangled with my own experiences, my own memories. Only through books do you get the immense privilege of living—simultaneous to your own life—multiple other lives. Thanks to the National Book Festival for including my book at this year's event."

"We are delighted to feature the multiple award-winning book *All the Light We Cannot See* by Idaho author Anthony Doerr at the Festival," said State Librarian Ann Joslin. "Commission staff members look forward to highlighting this novel and answering questions about other Idaho books, authors, and libraries. It's always inspiring to see thousands of families visit the Festival's Pavilion of the States and deepen their excitement about reading and learning."

Commission staff attendance at the Festival is made possible by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services administered by the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies (COSLA). See more about the National Book Festival at www.loc.gov/bookfest.

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The Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) builds the capacity of libraries to better serve their clientele through support of statewide databases and online resources, continuing education, consulting, programming, early literacy skills, and building library community. To learn more, visit <http://libraries.idaho.gov/>.

The Institute of Museum and Library Services is the primary source of federal support for the nation's 123,000 libraries and 17,500 museums. Our mission is to inspire libraries and museums to advance innovation, lifelong learning, and cultural and civic engagement. Our grant making, policy development, and research help libraries and museums deliver valuable services that make it possible for communities and individuals to thrive. To learn more, visit <http://www.ims.gov> and follow IMLS on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).