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NEWS RELEASE

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Promoting Idaho's Literary Heritage at National Book Festival

The Idaho Commission for Libraries will promote Idaho's literary heritage at the 11th annual National Book Festival. The Festival, sponsored by the Library of Congress, will be held on Saturday and Sunday, September 24 -25, 2011 on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. More than 150,000 festival goers are expected to explore the Festival's Authors Pavilion, Book Sales Pavilion, Let's Read America Pavilion, and Pavilion of the States on Saturday. The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) sponsors the Pavilion of the States to promote reading and the literary traditions of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. territories. At Idaho's table in the Pavilion, two Commission staff members will visit with attendees and distribute information that demonstrates how Idaho promotes reading, books, literacy, and libraries.

The Idaho Commission for Libraries has chosen *100 Cupboards*, young adult fiction by Moscow author N. D. Wilson, for the Idaho book to feature at the Pavilion. In this first book of a new fantasy adventure, twelve-year-old Henry York discovers cupboards of all different sizes and shapes in his attic bedroom. He and his cousin soon understand that these are not just cupboards, but portals to other worlds. "In *100 Cupboards*, I really wanted to bring the big global fantasy elements that I had loved growing up into a rural American setting—just like the one where I grew up. Wheat-fields and barns, baseball and barbecues meet magical doors and ancient mysteries," explained Wilson. "I wanted magic in heartland America, and I love what they did together."

"We are pleased to promote reading by featuring *100 Cupboards*, by Idaho author N. D. Wilson, at the Festival," said State Librarian Ann Joslin. "We look forward to answering questions about other Idaho writers and books as well. It is always a pleasure to share information about Idaho libraries and literacy projects at the Festival's Pavilion of the States and see thousands of families excited about reading."

Commission staff attends the Festival through a grant from IMLS 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) assists libraries to build the capacity to better serve their clientele. To learn more about ICFL, visit <http://libraries.idaho.gov/>.