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

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## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Ten New Libraries Join the “Make It at the Library” Project**

BOISE, ID— “Makerspaces bring people together to collaborate, design, create, and share knowledge,” said Ann Joslin, Idaho’s State Librarian. “By providing materials and tools, instruction in the use of new technology, and an environment that supports the creative process, libraries level the playing field for their users who may not otherwise have access to these hubs of innovation and engagement.”

The Idaho Commission for Libraries’ project to implement makerspaces in public libraries across Idaho, “Make It at the Library,” had another exciting year in 2014. The six new libraries and five returning libraries embraced “making” and pushed the boundaries of programming with makers of all ages.

We are pleased to announce that the following libraries have been invited to participate in the third year of the Make It at the Library project:

- Bear Lake County Library District, Montpelier
- Burley Public Library
- Caldwell Public Library
- DeMary Memorial Library, Rupert
- Marshall Public Library, Pocatello
- North Bingham County District Library, Shelley
- Payette Public Library
- Shoshone Public Library

In addition, the Commission invited two West Ada County school libraries to pilot the project this year:

- Centennial High School
- Heritage Middle School

The library staff at each school will work with two teachers to design and implement activities that support Idaho Core Standards using making tools and materials.

The first workshop for library staff will take place on February 17-19 at the Commission and will focus on developing a foundational understanding of the maker culture and design thinking, skills in basic circuitry, programming with Arduino, and electronic textiles. In May, the training will focus on robotics, and the final workshop in September will include 3D design and 3D printing.

In addition, four of our original five pilot libraries have agreed to use the knowledge gained over the past two years to host hands-on training workshops with schools, afterschool centers, and other organizations in their communities.

For more information on the project visit <http://libraries.idaho.gov/make-it-at-the-library> and [www.facebook.com/MakeItIdaho](http://www.facebook.com/MakeItIdaho).

This project has been made possible through funding from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

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The Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) assists libraries to build the capacity 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 about ICfL, 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.