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## DATES & DEADLINES

- Apply now for [Elementary School Library Access Grants](#) (open Nov 30 – March 29).
- Apply now for [Bright Futures Summer Reading](#) opportunities (open Dec 1).
- Registration opens for [Jump Start Kindergarten](#) (open Jan 2 – June 30).
- Applications for [Summer STEM from Your Library](#) (open Jan 2 – Feb 7).
- Apply for the new [Dia Micro-Grant](#) (Jan 14-Feb 1)

## WELCOME

Welcome to the first issue of the New Year! We hope you're able to take some time to reflect on all the great things you accomplished in 2018 and dream up a few new things to try in 2019!

Speaking of trying new things, there are lots of ICfL opportunities available this time of year for Idaho libraries of all types and sizes...from STEM Grants to Summer Reading add-ons...from Jump Start Kindergarten resources to School Library Access Grants. If you have any questions at all about any of these opportunities, please contact [Staci](#), [Kristina](#) or [Jennifer](#). We are here to help!

## LIBRARY TO LIBRARY

### Mock Caldecott Tea at Ada Community Library

At Ada Community Library's Mock Caldecott Tea, held in December each year, library staff can review some of the best picture books from 2018 and then step into the role of the Caldecott Committee to vote on their favorite book. This year's tea featured a brief talk from Megan Egbert, District Programs Director at Meridian Library District, who is actually on the Caldecott Committee this year (can you believe she's reviewed over 700 books?!?). After some lively discussion from the group about everyone's favorite titles, the winners were announced:

- "Dreamers" by Yuyi Morales (winner)
- "Drawn Together" by Lê Minh (honor)
- "Found" by Jeff Newman (honor)

The winner of this year's Caldecott Medal will be awarded at the American Library Association's Midwinter conference later this month (see Book Look below for details).



The 2018 Mock Caldecott Selection Committee at Ada Community Library – Victory Branch



Paige, Christine and Julie with this year's favorite books

## YOUNG ADULT CORNER

### YALSA Webinars for Everyone (in Idaho)!

ICfL is excited to announce that we have been able to purchase access for all Idaho library staff to attend all the members-only YALSA webinars for the upcoming year. You can register for one of the webinars by emailing Jennifer ([jennifer.redford@libraries.idaho.gov](mailto:jennifer.redford@libraries.idaho.gov)) for a special link. Here's a list of some of the upcoming webinars that you have access to as an Idaho librarian:

- Thursday, January 10, 2PM Eastern**  
**Everyday Disability: Welcoming Teens with Disabilities** facilitated by Vera Elwood, Hays (KS) Public Library  
 This webinar will offer actionable strategies for welcoming teens with disabilities into your libraries. Through the presentation, we will define disability, discuss ableism, talk through disability etiquette, and offer actionable strategies for welcoming teens with disabilities into your library. The presentation will be followed by case studies with a focus on group brainstorming and a time for questions and discussion. After this webinar, attendees should feel confident in advocating for and empowering their teens to succeed.
- Thursday, February 14, 2PM Eastern**  
**Providing Equitable Access @ Your Library for All Teens** facilitated by Julie Winkelstein School of Information Sciences, University of TN, Knoxville

- Thursday, March 14, 2PM Eastern  
Teens, Social Justice, and Difficult Conversations facilitated by Josie Andrews Bear River High School (CA)
- Thursday, April 11, 2PM Eastern  
What Does it Take to be Career Ready? facilitated by Sasha Gourevitch, Seattle (WA) Office of Economic Development

## KINDERGARTEN READY CORNER

### “Kindergarten, Here I Am!” Activity Calendar

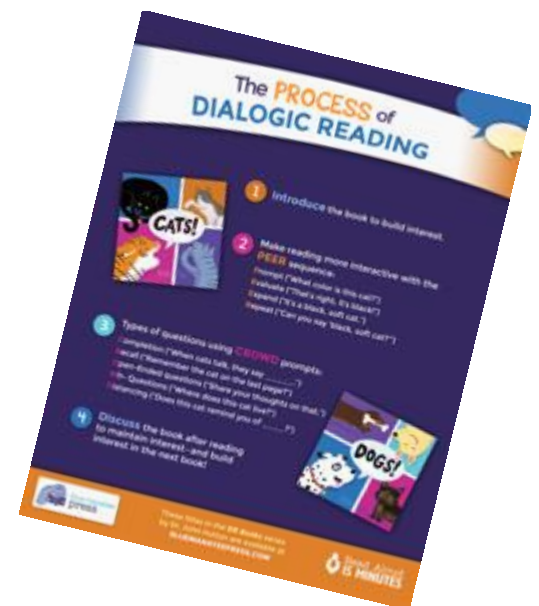
Developed by the Pennsylvania Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL), this “activity guide will introduce parents/caregivers to authors and illustrators who have written many books that are fun and interesting for kindergartners. Correlating activities are provided for the books featured each month.

Download the calendar or learn more about this resource on the Jump Start Kindergarten page of our website (look under “Program Dates & Resources”):

[More Info](#)

### Dialogic Reading process explained by a “PEER” and a “CROWD”

1. Introduce the book to build interest.
2. Make reading more interactive with the PEER sequence:
  - P – Prompt (“What color is this cat?”)
  - E – Evaluate (“That’s right, it’s black!”)
  - E – Expand (“It’s a black, soft cat.”)
  - R – Repeat (“Can you say ‘black, soft cat?’”)
3. Types of questions using CROWD prompts:
  - C – Completion (“When cats talk, they say \_ \_ \_ \_.”)
  - R – Recall (“Remember the cat on the last page?”)
  - O – Open-Ended questions (“Share your thoughts on that.”)
  - W – Wh-Questions (“Where does this cat live?”)
  - D – Distancing (“Does this cat remind you of \_ \_ \_ \_?”)



- Discuss the book after reading to maintain interest – and build interest in the next book.



Looking for a great handout that explains PEER and CROWD to parents? Check out [the parent/caregiver handout captured above](#) ... as well as [how to SHARE a book with a baby...](#)

...and the many more early literacy handouts offered for free download at:

<http://www.readaloud.org/>



## Free Webinar: Early Childhood Expertise Beyond Libraryland: Serving Refugee and Immigrant Families

Librarians and early childhood educators look ahead and respond to the current needs of their communities, including the provision of meaningful programming and services to refugee and immigrant families. Learn more about the challenges young children and their families face when leaving their home countries, including the trauma associated with family separations and strategies to support them.

Tuesday, April 9: 1:00 PM MST

[Learn More / Register](#)

## SCHOOL ZONE

By Jeannie Standal

After a refreshing break, it's time to get back into the school year! Some of us are starting a new semester and some of us are finishing up first semester – whatever semester you are working on, here are a few things that might make the work easier.

### "Jbrary"

There are tons of blogs from middle school and high school librarians about secondary librarianship, but not as much to support elementary librarianship. [Jbrary](#) is a blog about storytimes and so much more. Although the authors are public librarians, they have fantastic ideas and resources for school age

storytimes for the primary grades. Follow the links to other blogs, glean the stuff that works for your library and timeframe, and knock it out of the park with your kiddos!

## Youth Media Awards are Coming Up!

Hold a Mock Newbery or Mock Caldecott week for your classes. Pull out the titles mentioned in the [Heavy Medal Mock Newbery blog](#) or try [something like this for the Mock Caldecott](#) and let the kids vote on which they liked best. The 2019 medals and honors for both will be announced on January 28<sup>th</sup> at 8:00am PT and 9:00am MT and will be live streamed at <http://ala.unikron.com/>.

## Idaho's SAT Day is April 9, 2019

Your high school students might be starting the New Year with some resolutions around test results and college applications. Send them to [Learning Express Library](#) at [LiLI.org](http://LiLI.org) for free practice tests and review materials for the SAT, ACT, PSAT/NMSQT, AP exams, essay writing for college exams, and more. Unlike some of the advertised services for test prep that are around, the resources at Learning Express Library are paid for already with tax dollars. It is important to note that they are not free, and therefore students are not giving away personal information to use it.

Kids that have career plans that do not include college have access to career preparation tools like occupation exam prep, military exam prep, and other entrance exam prep materials, and software tutorials. For more information, visit [Lili.org](http://Lili.org) and go to Learning Express Library.

## An invitation to Idaho School Librarians from Idaho Public Television

Hello, librarians! It's Cindy from Idaho Public Television asking you for a favor. We are trying to reach teachers in grades K-3 to invite them to have their class enter **Idaho's 2019 PBS KIDS Writers Contest** and we wondered if you could reach out to the teachers in your school.

It really is a wonderful learning experience for **grades K-3**. Children are asked to write and illustrate their own stories and there is great flexibility in the types of stories. We select three winners for every grade for each of three regions in Idaho for a total of 36 winners. Every child who enters the contest gets their story back with a certificate printed with their name and a personalized note. Winners receive books, prizes and this year they can even get a \$100 contribution to their IDeal – Idaho College Savings account, plus they will have their winning story posted on our website. The stories do have to be mailed to us, but we'll cover the costs to mail everything back to the teachers. This year's entries should be post-marked by **March 23, 2019**. Also, we are returning to our system using hard copy entry forms.

Our Writers Contest webpage at [idahoptv.org/kids/writers](http://idahoptv.org/kids/writers) has application forms, rules and tips for teachers.





Questions? Please contact Cindy Lunte at: [cindy.lunte@idahoptv.org](mailto:cindy.lunte@idahoptv.org) or (208) 373-7311.

## Low Hanging Fruit

Speaking of writing, whether it's 5<sup>th</sup> grade or 8<sup>th</sup> grade, or any other grade, LiLi.org can help with those country reports. Check out [January's Low Hanging Fruit](#) for more information.

## Nonfiction Book of the Month

As we ring in 2019, take a look back 100 years to 1919, a pivotal year in the USA. Check it out in "1919: the Year that Changed America," [January's Nonfiction Book of the Month](#).



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Save the Date #1 - Read to Me Spring Regional Trainings announced!

**What?** Three regional, one-day trainings for approximately 60 participants at each location. Lunch provided – no travel expenses.

**Who?** For youth services library staff or the library staff at your branch who would benefit the most.

**When & Where?**

- March 29<sup>th</sup> – Pocatello (at the Clarion Inn)
- April 12<sup>th</sup> – Boise (at the Oxford Suites)
- May 3<sup>rd</sup> – Moscow (at the Best Western/University Inn)

**Draft Agenda for the Day:**

Morning (8:30-12) – Registration/Coffee/Basic Storytime Training (by Tammy/Jen)

Lunch (12-1) – Kindergarten Readiness Grant share out (from a regional grantee)

Afternoon (1-4:30) – Introduction of the new Kindergarten Readiness Program; NASA @ My Library Grant overview/resources; Program Evaluation Made Simple; Summer STEM Grants, Youth Services roundtable/sharing/networking; Surprise maker activity for summer learning.

Details coming soon – keep an eye on "libidaho" or the February 7<sup>th</sup> issue of "The Scoop" for registration information.

### Save the Date #2 - Idaho Libraries' Futures Camp announced!

Library staff from throughout Idaho will gather at a unique three-day summer camp to dream, envision, and shape the future of libraries. Within the striking new Cruzen-Murray Library on the historic College of Idaho campus in Caldwell, campers will unite to engage with emerging trends and build connections.

Campers will be chosen through a competitive application process and related costs to attend and participate will be covered by camp sponsors.

**LOCATION:** The College of Idaho in Caldwell, featuring the new [Cruzen-Murray Library](#)

**DATES:** June 12-14, 2019

Event registration and more information will be posted on ICfL's website in the coming weeks:

[Learn More](#)

## February Celebrations:

African American History Month

International Friendship Month

[Children's Authors and Illustrators Week](#) (first week of February)

[World Read Aloud Day](#) (February 1)

[Take Your Child to the Library Day](#) (February 2)

Mardi Gras (February 5)

Chinese New Year – Year of the Pig (February 5)

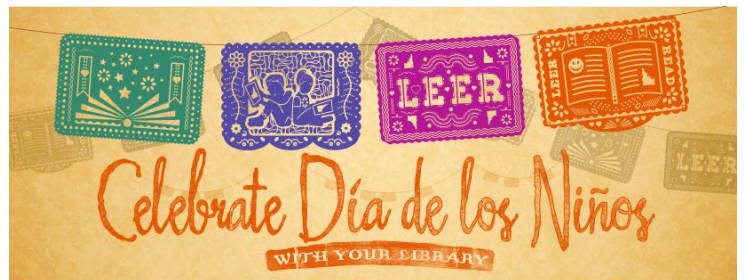
Valentine's Day (February 14)

President's Day (February 18) *ICfL closed*

## TIPS AND TOOLS

### Dia de los Ninos – now a Micro-Grant!

Since 2005, ICfL has been supporting Dia de los Ninos - originally a Mexican celebration for children/the day of the child. Today, with this event, we continue to celebrate children as well as emphasize the importance of daily family reading. **A big change for this year...we will be using our program budget to offer support for 12 libraries to offer Dia events with \$400 micro-grants.** Therefore, hardcover and paperback books will not be provided directly from ICfL this year. Rather, approved libraries will use their grant funds to purchase relevant books, hire presenters / performers, and purchase educational activity supplies for their events. (Grant applicants who are not awarded funding as well as libraries who do not apply for the grant are welcome to utilize any of the Dia promotional materials and resources available on our website to offer a Dia event.)



We are on a short timeframe to make this grant happen. Interested libraries should review the grant goals, requirements, allowable use of funds and the grant application and report as soon as possible.

**The grant application will be open:** January 14, 2019 – February 1, 2019

**Applicants will be notified of their award status:** February 15, 2019

**Grantees can anticipate receiving funds by approximately:** March 1, 2019

[Learn More/Apply](#)

## **Bookapalooza: A book grant from ALSC**

Each year the ALSC office receives nearly 3,000 newly published books, videos, audiobooks, and recordings from children's trade publishers. These materials, primarily for children age birth through fourteen, are submitted to ALSC award and media evaluation selection committees for award and notables consideration. After each ALA Midwinter Meeting in January, these materials need to be cleared out to make room for a new year of publications.

The Bookapalooza Program was created to find new homes for these materials. ALSC will select three libraries to receive a Bookapalooza collection of materials to help transform their current collection and provide the opportunity for these materials to be used in their communities in creative and innovative ways, and enhance their library service to children and families.

Applications are open and are due by February 1, 2019. Applicants must be personal members of ALSC. For additional eligibility requirements, application criteria, and the application:

[Learn More](#)

## **Small Libraries Create Smart Spaces**

In collaboration with ARSL, WebJunction is excited to announce that applications are now being accepted for the second round of Small Libraries Create Smart Spaces project.

WebJunction is seeking 15 small and rural libraries interested in engaging their communities in a process to transform physical space and to support active learning at the library. Participating libraries will engage in online learning and put that learning into practice to facilitate library space transformations and active learning opportunities over a 15-month period (March 2019–May 2020).

**Application deadline:** 5:00 p.m. PST (8:00 p.m. EST) on Friday, January 18, 2019.

Learn more about the participation requirements and application guidelines:

[Learn More/Apply](#)



## Ezra-Jack Keats Mini-Grants for school and public libraries

The Ezra-Jack Keats Mini-Grant Program is currently accepting applications. These grants are “an opportunity for a public-school teacher or librarian to present a special project outside the standard curriculum or an engaging way to help students meet curricular goals.”

70 grants of up to \$500 will be awarded. Be sure to check out the [“Instruction Highlights” video](#) for useful information and helpful application tips. Application deadline is **March 31**.

See [Great Mini-Grant Program Examples](#) from the Ezra-Jack Keats Foundation.

## SUMMER READING NEWS

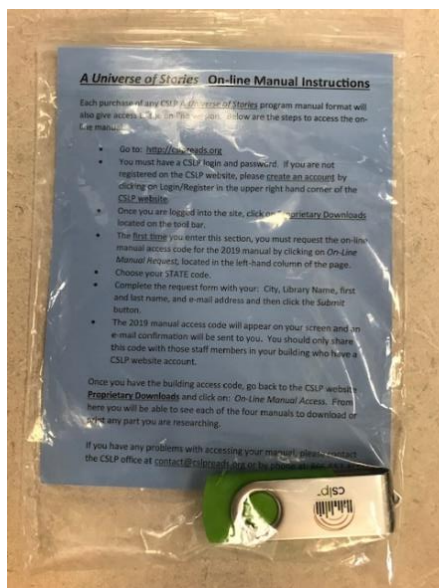
### 2019 Program Manuals

Summer Reading Program manuals were shipped out to every publicly funded public library and branch in Idaho that submitted their 2018 Summer Reading Report. Manuals were sent in white envelopes with the following label:

**2019 Summer Reading  
Program Manual**

[Please open immediately!](#)

If you did not request a specific format last spring, you received a USB drive with the manual and all artwork. Online access is also provided with each manual order. See instructions enclosed in your package for how to access your online manual. Your USB manual looks like this, and has this cute tag attached to help you keep track of it.



**Reminder to order early:** Upstart will not invoice you until your order ships (usually around January or February), so please place orders early to ensure stock availability.

The CSLP theme this year is “A Universe of Stories” and will tie in with the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Moon Landing. Please see the [featured article: NASA @ My Library Kits and Resources](#).

## Apply Now for Bright Futures Programs

Applications for Bright Futures Outreach Opportunities are now open. These are opt-in programs for Idaho public libraries that want to reach more underserved children and families with summer reading programs and messaging. Click on each for details, program requirements, and application.



- [Parent/Caregiver Outreach](#): deadline to apply is March 15
- [Strengthening School Partnerships](#): deadline to apply is March 15
- [Summer Outreach to Underserved Children](#): deadline to apply is May 1

## News from CSLP (Collaborative Summer Library Program)

### Tutorials:

Whether you are new to CSLP resources, or it has just been a while since you last visited the CSLP website, these brief tutorials should help you get up to speed and connected to everything you need to plan your 2019 summer program:



- Creating an account
- Accessing the Online Manual
- Quickly downloading the artwork
- Getting started with Early Literacy Spanish Language resources

Videos and slides are available for you to use and customize for your own needs.

[Learn More](#)

If you have an idea for a tutorial, please send it to Luke Kralik at [luke.kralik@cslpreads.org](mailto:luke.kralik@cslpreads.org)

### Webinars:

CSLP, STAR Net, and NASA are working together on a virtual launch pad filled with numerous STEM resources that libraries can utilize in their celebration of space exploration. STAR Net’s “Summer of Space” website can provide your library with valuable tools to help your summer learning program achieve great success. Register and become eligible to receive additional STEM resources.

**Craft, Engineer, and Make & Take Activities for “A Universe of Stories – January 17, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. MT**

Looking for cheap, easy, accessible, and FUN hands-on experiences for your patrons this summer? Are you trying to spice up your normal craft and make and take activities with a space science theme? If so,

then this is the webinar for you! Join us as we take a look at several different activities from the STEM Activity Clearinghouse Universe of Stories Collection that are hands-on, easy to facilitate, and sure to inspire curiosity.

[Register](#)

### **Planning a Night Sky Viewing at Your Library – February 20, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. MT**

Before your library launches a Night Sky Viewing or Star Party this year, there are a few things to know that can help take your event into orbit. Take a look at the best practices for finding and working with an astronomy club, how to choose the right activities and promotional strategy, and other tips and tricks.

[Register](#)

### **Solar System Scale Activities for "A Universe of Stories" – March 7, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. MT**

Our solar system is enormous, and the size of and distance between the Sun, planets, asteroids, and comets can be difficult to comprehend. This webinar will highlight activities that allow patrons to experience the vast distances between objects in the solar system using foods or household objects. You don't have to be a rocket scientist to facilitate these activities; in fact, they're affordable, simple, and easy for anyone to run.

[Register](#)

Archived recordings, slides, and links can also be found at:

<http://www.starnetlibraries.org/resources/webinars/>

## **Other Summer Reading Resources:**

### **School Library Journal**

[Summer Programming ideas](#)

### **Idaho Commission for Libraries Summer Reading Resources website:**

Find planning resources, outreach materials, presentation tools, evaluation information and more!

<https://libraries.idaho.gov/summer-reading/summer-reading-resources/>

## FEATURED:

### NASA @ My Library Program Comes to Idaho

By Deana Brown, ICfL's Emerging Trends Consultant

I am excited to announce that ICfL has been chosen as one of 14 state library agencies to participate in the 2<sup>nd</sup> cohort of the [NASA @ My Library](#) project! ICfL will be launching [Idaho's NASA @ My Library program](#) with facilitation kits circulating to public libraries starting in February. The themes of the two kits are *Sun-Earth-Moon Connections* and *Be a NASA Detective*. Each kit comes with step-by-step directions for each activity, (almost) all the materials you'll need, and links to further resources. These kits align perfectly with the [Collaborative Summer Library Program](#) theme of "A universe of stories" and the 50th anniversary of Apollo moon landing on July 20<sup>th</sup> 2019.



#### *What's in the kits?*

**Kit #1 - The Sun-Earth-Moon Connections Kit** focuses on activities and experiences that better help patrons understand their place in space, and how the Sun and Moon impact our planet. Major content areas in this kit include: modeling both lunar and solar eclipses with easy-to-use tools, detecting ultraviolet light in a creative way; using sorting cards to explore concepts relating to size, distance, and temperature; and an experiential activity that allows for a greater understanding of the vast scale of our Solar System.

**Kit #2 - The Be A NASA Detective: Expanding Your Senses Kit** focuses on activities and experiences that help patrons (and library staff) be more comfortable using tools of science and making predictions based on their observations. Major content areas in this kit include: modeling the vast distances in our Solar System using a fun paper folding project, creating the shapes of the Moon's phases with some "tasty" resources, exploring science through art with planetary image analysis, investigating the insides of planets using hands-on objects, and using scientific tools such as a telescope and infrared thermometer to observe the properties of objects that are difficult to see with our eyes.

The form to reserve the kits will go live by the time this issue of "The Scoop" is published:

[Learn More/Apply](#)

See "[Summer Reading News](#)" section of this newsletter for upcoming related webinars.

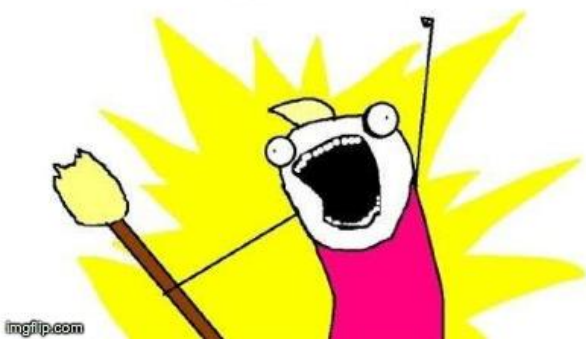
Questions? Contact ICfL's Emerging Technology Consultant and NASA @ My Library Project Lead, Deana Brown at [deana.brown@libraries.idaho.gov](mailto:deana.brown@libraries.idaho.gov).

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## CE NEWS YOU CAN USE

By Tammy Hawley-House, ICfL's Continuing Education Consultant

### Learn ALL the things!



Happy New Year. Just in case your New Year's resolution is to LEARN ALL THE THINGS, we are here to help. Maybe you want to start slow with one webinar each month. Here are three that you might just want to try.

- **The Lili Databases.** ICfL's own Allison Floyd will be presenting at January's Info2Go webinar on January 14, 2019. Register if you want to see what's new, need a fresher on what is available, or have never heard of this incredible service that we provide everyone in the state of Idaho.

[Learn More / Register](#)

- **The Future is Now: Virtual, Augmented, and Mixed Reality in Public Libraries.** This is a free one-hour webinar on January 23, 2019 from 1-2 PM MST.

[Learn More / Register](#)

- **Making the Move from Summer Reading to Summer Learning**

Participants will gain an awareness of best practices in making the shift from summer reading to summer learning and examine outcomes-based evaluation as a way to measure program success and communicate their programs' impact.

[Learn More / Register](#)

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## DIVERSITY IN ACTION

### PLA Symposium – Social Justice and Public Libraries: Equity Starts with Us

In 2019, The Public Library Association (PLA) will be offering [three regional symposiums](#) on equity, diversity, inclusion and social justice (EDISJ) in public libraries. Symposium participants will:



- Build a shared understanding of core EDISJ concepts, including identity and privilege, institutionalized racism and oppression, solidarity, and liberation;
- Increase self-awareness, develop strategies to address their own biases, and learn how to share this knowledge within their libraries and communities;
- Develop regional connections to help them begin and sustain transformative work in their libraries and communities; and
- Utilize case studies and equity tools to create an action plan for strengthening EDISJ practices in their libraries and communities.

“Equity, diversity, inclusion and social justice are core values of our organization,” explains PLA President Monique le Conge Zieshenne, PhD. “We’re proud to offer these regional symposia in 2019 to equip public library workers across the country with the information, resources and understanding needed to apply these values in their libraries and communities.” Library staff can apply for [First Time Conference Grants](#) through ICfL to attend one of the symposium opportunities.

## How You Can Begin to Combat Bias

“First, this truth: We all have unconscious bias. Unconscious bias happens when we allow our own attitudes, feelings, stereotypes, or beliefs to impact our judgment or understanding of other people. It’s called “unconscious” because it is not something we do deliberately; rather, it is an involuntary process based on our deep-seated thoughts.”<sup>1</sup>

### *Continue Reading*

You can help foster cultural competence by using this [free downloadable calendar](#), created by First Book and the Maryland State Education Association (MSEA), to celebrate culture, diversity and inclusion:



[More Info](#)

## KNOW THE NUMBERS

### Chronic Absenteeism a Major Problem in U.S. Schools

*Nationally, more than 15 percent of students during the 2015-16 school year were chronically absent, which the federal government defines as missing 15 or more days. Student demographics, differences in reporting methods and numerous other factors influence states’ totals.*

“Desks in classrooms all across the country are routinely empty. It’s not due to a lack of funding or declining enrollment, but to the fact that students simply aren’t showing up.

The most recent federal data suggest more than 1 in 7 students are chronically absent from our public schools. It's a widespread problem: At least a dozen schools in nearly every state report more than 20 percent of students are chronically absent."

*Continue Reading*



## STEAM

### Start a FREE Girls Who Code Club Today!

Join students and educators across the country by partnering with **Girls Who Code** to bring computer science opportunities to elementary, middle, and high school girls in your community! **Girls Who Code Clubs** are **FREE** after-school programs for 3rd-5th or 6th-12th grade girls to join a sisterhood of supportive peers and role models and use computer science to change the world. Learn more by signing up for an upcoming Girls Who Code **webinar**.

**Ready to join the movement?** Complete a Clubs application **here!** As a Girls Who Code Community Partner, any Clubs in our network are eligible to receive additional partnership benefits by indicating **Idaho Commission for Libraries** on the Clubs Application in the "About Your Club" Section on Page 4!

**Have questions?** Contact Girls Who Code at **clubs@girlswhocode.com!**

### Summer STEM Mini-Grant Applications are now open – Apply TODAY!

We are partnering again with the Idaho STEM Action Center to support libraries that offer STEM outreach programming during the summer. This grant is open to all publicly funded libraries (public, school and academic), and each library will receive \$600 and additional resources to produce STEM programs this summer. Based on feedback from last summer's participating libraries, we've made a few changes to this year's grant:

- **We will release grant funds sooner** – we will be able to distribute grants as soon as March 1.
- **We're extending the summer** – you can now use your funds on STEM programs from May 1 – August 31. This will give libraries the option of using Summer STEM outreach programs to also promote Summer Reading (which just happens to have a really cool STEM-related theme this year). Several libraries mentioned that it was difficult to offer programs outside during the late summer months due to the heat and possible smoke from wildfires. Getting started in May will help address this issue.
- **We're giving you more money!** We've increased the grant amount from \$500 to \$600
- **We're trying to extend our reach.** This grant can fund up to 70 libraries this year – we had 59 libraries participate last year and we could use some help making sure we reach our goal. You can help by applying for a Summer STEM grant and encouraging all the libraries in your system/area to do so too.

- **We're trying to make outreach easier.** The goal of this grant is to bring quality STEM programming to underserved populations during the months when kids are out of school. For school and academic libraries, any type of programming during the summer months (when the library is traditionally closed) is considered outreach. For public libraries, we are loosening the requirement that ALL Summer STEM programs take place outside of the library. We would still like public libraries to do around 50% of Summer STEM programs outside the library to reach underserved populations, but we recognize that it can be hard to leave the building during the summer months and that offering STEM programming at your library may be a draw for the underserved in your community.

[Learn More/Apply](#)

## "Groundbreaking Study Discovers an Association between Screen Time and Actual Brain Changes"

"Big news has hit us this week about brain morphology and screen time, and I want to weigh in as we all try to make sense of the findings. Here is the gist of what headlines are saying:

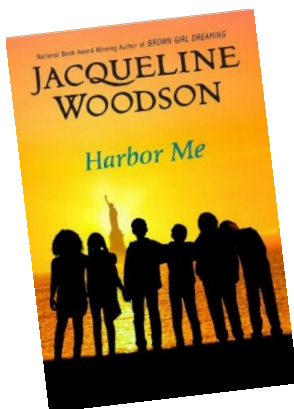
*Researchers studied 4,500 9-and 10-year olds and found that many of those who spend more than 7 hours a day on screens —such as smartphones, tablets, and video games—showed premature thinning of the cortex which is the outermost layer of the brain. "*

[Continue Reading](#)

## BOOK LOOK

### 2019 Youth Media Awards

Can't make it to ALA Midwinter for this year's Youth Media Awards? You can [follow the 2019 results in real-time via webcast](#) from the comfort of your cozy library. The award announcements will take place on Monday, January 28, 2019, at 8:00 a.m. Each year, committees of librarians and other experts select these prestigious awards, including the Newbery, Caldecott, Printz and Coretta Scott King Book Awards.

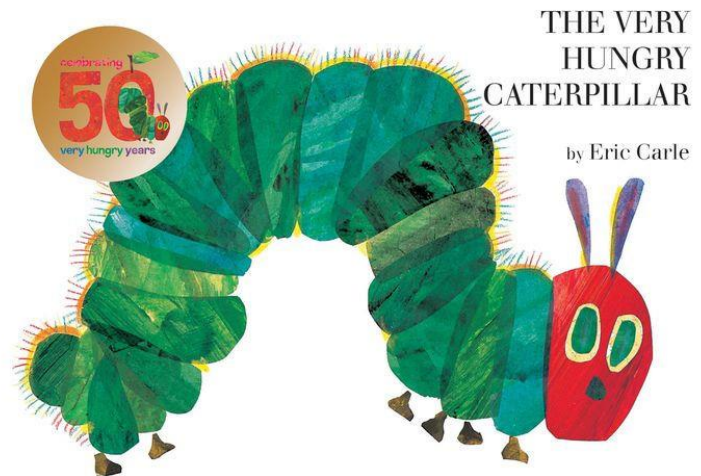


If you haven't already, check out Elizabeth Bird's "Newbery/Caldecott 2019: Fall Prediction Edition," in preparation for the big announcement!

## Plan Ahead for Major Book Anniversaries

"The Very Hungry Caterpillar. Eric Carle is making it very easy to celebrate his classic children's text. The 89-year-old author is releasing three titles this year to share with your students: *Calm with the Very Hungry Caterpillar*, *Eric Carle's Book of Many Things*, and *Happy Birthday from the Very Hungry Caterpillar*. It's a good year for a new caterpillar craft. [Carle Museum art resource.](#)"

*For more 50<sup>th</sup> anniversaries....Continue Reading*



## Best of 2018 Lists

### *Library Trade Publications:*

- Best Youth Books of 2018 via [Booklist](#)
- Publisher's Weekly:
  - [Children's Starred Reviews 2018](#)
  - [Best Children's and YA Books of 2018](#)
- School Library Journal:
  - [Best Books of 2018](#)
  - [Best Adult Books 4 Teens](#)
  - [Top 10 Graphic Novels of 2018 \(all ages\)](#)
  - [Top 10 Audiobooks](#)
  - [Top 10 Children's Music](#)
- Kirkus "rolling" 2018 Best Lists

### *Library Media & Blogs:*

- 2018 Best Children's & Teen Books of the Year via [Shelf Awareness](#)
- 2018 Best Books for Kids via [New York Public Library](#)
- Chicago Public Library's Best Books of 2018 – from Board Books to Manga – via [CCPL website](#)
- 31 Days, 31 Lists for 2018 "rolling" series via Fuse 8 Blog
  - [Board Books & Pop-Up Books](#)
  - [Wordless Picture Books](#)
  - [Picture Book Readalouds](#)
  - [Alphabet Books](#)

### *National Media:*

- *\*NEW\** Best Books for Children and YA via [The Boston Globe](#)
- *\*NEW\** Best Children's Books of 2018 via [Chicago Tribune](#)
- Best Kids' Books of 2018 via [NPR Book Concierge](#)
- The 10 Best YA and Children's Books of 2018 via [Time Magazine](#)
- Kids Notables 2018 via [New York Times Book Review](#)
- The 2018 New York Times/New York Public Library Best Illustrated Children's Books via [NYT](#)
- Best Children's Books of 2018 via [The Washington Post](#)

### *Award Lists:*

- 2018 Notable Children's Books via [Association of Library Services to Children](#)
- 2018 Youth Media Awards via [American Library Association](#)
- Children's and Teen Book Choice Awards via [Children's Book Council](#)
- National Book Award for Young People's Literature via [National Book Foundation](#)

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### **Contact Information**

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