

April 25, 2024

# THE NEXUS

NEWSLETTER FOR THE IDAHO LIBRARY COMMUNITY

## Children's School and Library Protection Act Goes into Effect July 1

-- Office Hours on May 3 at 10 a.m. MT --

by Deputy State Librarian Dylan Baker

Governor Little signed [House Bill 710](#) ("Children's School and Library Protection Act") into law on Wednesday, April 10, 2024.

We at the Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) have a few best practices to guide school and public library staff in complying with this new requirement.

School and public libraries have until July 1, 2024, to implement any changes, as the requirements and procedures outlined in this bill are not in effect until that date.

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<https://libraries.idaho.gov>

**ICfL** Idaho Commission  
for Libraries

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(Continued from page 1.)

First, remember that libraries and school districts have lost court cases when they have removed or restricted materials, violating the First Amendment rights of minors and adults. If your staff or board considers relocating or removing books, follow your policies that are in place for your collection to ensure that you are not creating any liabilities for your organization. [This LibGuide provided by the Thomas J. Meskill Law Library](#) lists previous court cases that relate to libraries and intellectual freedom.

Second, your governing Board of Trustees or School Board should review and update your Collection Development/Request for Reconsideration policies to comply with the law. This will include detailing your process for the relocation/reconsideration of materials and citing the appropriate sections of Idaho Code. Consult with your legal counsel/risk manager to ensure that your policies are legal according to all applicable laws and regulations. In your policy, confirm that if you have previously detailed something as being up for reconsideration that you also include language to request relocating the material to an adults' only section.

Third, in your library's Request for Reconsideration form, either add an option to request materials be relocated instead of removed from the collection or create a separate form for relocation requests. These forms must cite Idaho Code § 18-1514. The relevant Children's School and Libraries Protection Act is cited as Idaho Code § 18-1517b. You may wish to cite that when referring to the timeline for reconsiderations or appeals and next steps. Note that: "Each school and public library shall have a policy and readily accessible form allowing a person to request review of material the person considers to be harmful to minors. Such form shall contain the definition of 'harmful to minors,' as provided in section 18-1514, Idaho Code."

Finally, we would like to invite you to join us for an **"Office Hours"** session on **Friday, May 3** from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. MT. This will be a collaborative session where participants will be able to ask questions and share their successes and challenges. Here is the Zoom link for that meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85797290294?pwd=enCrVldLaU9NLzhkemJLUeI4cFJFZz09>

We know that challenging times lie ahead, but we will all find a path forward for our communities and continue to provide the vital service of education to the residents of our state. The staff of the Idaho Commission for Libraries are available to assist you, and we encourage you to reach out with any questions.

<https://libraries.idaho.gov/about/staff/>

Another resource: Idaho Counties Risk Management (ICRMP) <https://www.icrmp.org/>

# Explore Creative Aging for Your Library

-- Convening Registration Open through May 1 --

Three Idaho libraries are exploring a unique take on arts programming this spring, reaching older community members with eight-week opportunities for creative expression and connection.

The workshops are funded and guided by national nonprofit Lifetime Arts. They are part of a regional initiative to address loneliness and social isolation among older adults by advancing creative aging opportunities through state libraries, arts agencies, and veterans services.

The Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) and Idaho Commission on the Arts (Arts Idaho) are partnering to support public libraries through the planning, training, and implementation of the pilot programs, which aim to go deeper than a one-time, self-contained arts event.

The ICfL and Arts Idaho will host an all-day **Creative Aging Convening** in **Boise** on **Thursday, June 6**. This workshop is an opportunity for library staff to hear insights from the pilot programs, connect with arts organizations, and consider new creative engagement opportunities. **Registration is open through May 1**.

Each of the three pilot libraries – Ada Community Library, Victory Branch, Idaho Falls Public Library, and Lewiston City Library – received \$2,000 from Lifetime Arts to hire a professional teaching artist and cover workshop materials.

“Not only is it about bringing people together and giving them a chance to hang out and connect, but they’re also growing in a way that perhaps they wouldn’t be in one-off craft or art events,” said ICfL Adult Services Consultant Deana Brown. “My hope is that this will take arts programming in libraries to the next level.”

For much more, <https://libraries.idaho.gov/idaho-libraries-pilot-creative-aging-workshops/>.



Participants explore the basics of mosaics in an early session of the Ada Community Library – Victory Branch's Creative Aging workshop series. (Photo provided by Ada Community Library)

# TBS on TV (and Digital)

The Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) is doing an advertising campaign for the Idaho Talking Book Service (TBS) in most markets across the state.

The 30-second video spot will air on television in these markets:

Lewiston/surrounding areas of central Idaho - KLEW-TV - April 22 - May 19

Idaho Falls/Pocatello/surrounding areas - KPVI-TV - April 22 - May 12 and KIFI-TV - April 29 - May 19

Twin Falls/surrounding areas - KMVT-TV - April 22 - May 12

Boise/surrounding areas - KBOI-TV - April 22 - May 12

In northern Idaho, the video spot will air on digital platforms. (For example, you might see a TBS ad while you are playing a game on your device.)

The language of the ad includes a suggestion for viewers to visit their public library for more information. If your public library does not have a TBS player and you would like one to have for demonstration purposes, please email LeAnn Gelskey at [LeAnn.Gelskey@libraries.idaho.gov](mailto:LeAnn.Gelskey@libraries.idaho.gov). And if you would like help to promote TBS, please contact LeAnn or ICfL Public Information Officer Donna Eggers at [donna.eggers@libraries.idaho.gov](mailto:donna.eggers@libraries.idaho.gov).

To view the ad, visit the ICfL YouTube Channel at:

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCExw\\_h-fMO5aBU\\_W-osouKw](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCExw_h-fMO5aBU_W-osouKw).



# E-Services Roadshow

The ICfL E-Services team hit the road in April to bring a full day of training to public and school library staff in several areas of the state. Participants were grateful that the training came to them.

For e-resources, visit <https://libraries.idaho.gov/digital-inclusion/>.

<https://idahodigitalskills.org>

**Gateway to work and life digital skills for all Idahoans.**



## Self-Checkout Stations at Valley of the Tetons

The Valley of the Tetons Library (locations in Victor and Driggs) has completed a two-year project to re-catalog tens of thousands of items in their collection in order to offer self-checkout stations at both library locations.

Everything in the library's collection -- more than 40,000 items -- had to be RFID tagged.

"Libraries have been around for 3,000 years and the reason that they have been around that long is because they adapt and change to the needs of the community," said Christina Heilman, executive director of the Valley of the Tetons Library.

# Why Didn't I Think of That?

The **Kamiah Community Library** recently introduced its Reading Education Assistance Dog R.E.A.D. program. This program aspires to help children improve their reading and communication skills by reading books out loud to a dog.



The **Marshall Public Library** in Pocatello offers seed packets for check out. They also have planting info for first-time gardeners.

Marshall Public Library

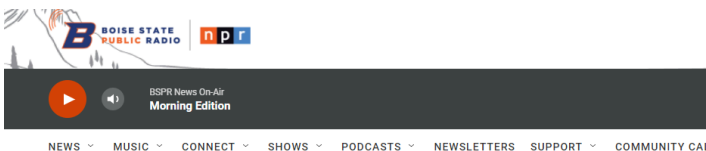
## SEED Library

### How it works:

- Research what plants are right for you and your space! We have many books to help find the plant for you.
- Come to the library and pick up your seeds! Limit 1 pack per visit
- Time to plant! You can grow in small spaces, give container gardening a try.
- Share your harvest with family, friends or bring some back to the library for our Garden to Give program this fall.

## GREAT PLANTS FOR 1ST TIME GARDENERS

- Squash
- Cucumbers
- Radishes
- Green Beans
- Peas
- Lettuce
- Spinach
- Carrots
- Herbs: Basil, Mint, Rosemary & Cilantro
- Flowers: Marigolds, Nasturtiums, & Cosmos

An illustration of two people, a man and a woman, wearing hats and overalls, are in a garden. The man is kneeling and holding a pumpkin, while the woman is standing and watering a plant with a pink watering can. There are various plants and a tree in the background.

## During March Meowness, library fines can be paid with cat photos

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▶ LISTEN • 0:28

This month the public library in Worcester, Mass., is letting people pay any lost and damage fees with cat photos. The program is meant to help library borrowers who might not be able to pay.

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The **Twin Falls Public Library** hosted a “play date” youth program for spring break. For the week, library staff replaced storytime with play date events for babies, toddlers, and preschoolers. Staff also brought out extra toys and had play areas set up all over the children’s area so that kids and caregivers could play and connect.