

February 22, 2024

THE NEXUS

NEWSLETTER FOR THE IDAHO LIBRARY COMMUNITY

E-Services Hits the Road in April

The ICfL E-Services team will hit the road in April to bring a full day of training to public and school library staff in Idaho Falls, Hailey, Boise, and Coeur d'Alene.

The roadshow will feature sessions on digital access, E-rate, website best practices and e-branch, and digital resources. Staff from OCLC will also present the cataloging and interlibrary loan tools available to agencies participating in ShareIdaho.

For details, visit <https://libraries.idaho.gov/announcing-the-e-services-roadshow/>. To register for a session near you, click on the link to the location you are interested in.



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<https://libraries.idaho.gov>



ICfL Board Seeks Applicants from 1st Congressional District

The Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) is accepting applications to fill an upcoming vacancy on its five-member board of library commissioners, which is the policymaking body for the ICfL. The position must be filled by an Idaho resident who lives within the 1st Congressional District and is at least 18 years of age. It is a five-year term beginning in summer 2024.

The powers and duties of the board of library commissioners are listed in Idaho Code, Title 33, Chapter 25, Section 3, found here:

<https://legislature.idaho.gov/statutesrules/idstat/Title33/T33CH25/SECT33-2503/>.

Idaho Code specifies that the board of library commissioners shall nominate to the governor qualified candidates to fill any board vacancy.

Ideal candidates will have an awareness of emerging technologies, a grasp of the importance of libraries in youth and teen development, an understanding of the ways libraries can meet the needs of a diverse state, and an appreciation of the many roles and responsibilities shouldered by library directors, staff, and trustees.

Potential candidates who are enthusiastic about all the things libraries offer Idahoans and can dedicate time to performing board duties should submit a letter of interest, résumé, and references to the ICfL by March 20, 2024. Interviews for potential candidates will begin in April.

Materials should be mailed to:

Idaho Commission for Libraries
Attn: Stephanie Bailey-White, State Librarian
325 W. State Street
Boise, ID 83702

Or materials may be submitted online at: <https://form.jotform.com/240078909316056>.

Summer Intern Grant Open

The ICfL's Summer Intern Grant of \$1,500 offers library staff the opportunity to hire, train, and mentor an intern, using grant funds to pay the intern's wages or stipend. Grant applications accepted through March 5. For more, visit <https://libraries.idaho.gov/community-partners/workforce-development/summer-intern-grant/>.

The ICfL also offers **Continuing Education** and **one-time grants**. <https://libraries.idaho.gov/grants-funding/monetary-grants/>

Pinwheels for Prevention

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month and is a time when libraries can highlight resources for their communities that help prevent child abuse and raise awareness about prevention.

For resources, visit <https://libraries.idaho.gov/pinwheels-for-prevention/>. You can also order free pinwheels and yard sign while supplies last. Orders must be placed by March 15.



The Library
Outreach to Children and
Jump Start Kindergarten
programs are open for requests.



2024-5 SLA Mini-Grant Application Open through April 1

Applications are being accepted through April 1, 2024, for the 2024-25 School Library Access (SLA) Mini-Grant for elementary and secondary school libraries.

The goals of the SLA Mini-Grant are: to increase the amount of reading done in the home; to increase access to quality, age-appropriate fiction and nonfiction titles in elementary school libraries throughout Idaho; and to increase the number of children reading on grade level.

For more, visit <https://libraries.idaho.gov/school-libraries/elementary-school-grants/>.



Summer Summit 2024

Summer Summit 2024 will be July 16-18. Registration will open after spring break (with a new application process).

School Library Question?

Do you have a school library question? ICfL School Library Consultant Jeannie Standal has office hours on Tuesdays at 3:30 p.m. MT via Zoom.

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85716838122?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85716838122?pwd=a1VoYzNmN1VBdCt5MkJKULzRhbVkyUT09)
[pwd=a1VoYzNmN1VBdCt5MkJKULzRhbVkyUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85716838122?pwd=a1VoYzNmN1VBdCt5MkJKULzRhbVkyUT09) The meeting ID is 857 1683 8122; passcode is SLAMG.



New Homepage

ICfL staff have made a few minor changes to the homepage of the agency's website to eliminate duplication and improve functionality. The dropdown menus have been updated and the most-used programs are easier to find. Links to sunsetted programs have been removed. Additionally, the Youth Services team has restructured some of their webpages to make things easier to access.

Check out the homepage: <https://libraries.idaho.gov/>. The Youth Services page is here: <https://libraries.idaho.gov/youth-services/>.

If you have questions or comments about the website changes, we're listening! Send an email to listening@libraries.idaho.gov to let us know what you think.

Change to LiLI Log-On Page

There is a slight change to the log-on page to access the LiLI databases and resources. <https://lili.org/>

You are now prompted to choose your local public library. This change was implemented to help ICfL staff more accurately gather statistics about database usage to share with public libraries. Users who live outside a public library service area or are unsure what their local library is can select "no local library."

The ICfL is currently conducting a statewide digital advertising campaign for LiLI's LearningExpress. You can view the three 15-second spots via the [ICfL's YouTube Channel](#).

If you haven't explored LearningExpress, you'll find resources for students and adults, along with information about a variety of careers to help those entering the job market or those who might be ready for a change. LearningExpress also includes the "popular software skills center," which features help with Microsoft Office and computer graphics and illustration software.



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ICfL Changes

Deana Brown is now the ICfL's Adult Services Library Consultant. In this role, Deana provides consulting support to library staff who serve older adults in their communities. This is done through online chats, a monthly newsletter, and programs related to this growing population. deana.brown@libraries.idaho.gov

Kristina Taylor is now the ICfL's Outreach and Family Engagement Consultant. In her role, Kristina will help the ICfL expand its focus and services related to special populations, library outreach programming, and underserved groups. kristina.taylor@libraries.idaho.gov

Telehealth Toolkit Available

The ICfL's Telehealth Toolkit is designed to help library staff implement telehealth programs that are relevant and valuable to their communities. Whether you work in a rural library and hope to provide services that are geographically out of reach for your patrons or you're in an urban setting where you want to create a safe and private space for mental health visits, this toolkit provides you with information and resources to get you started. <https://libraries.idaho.gov/telehealth/toolkit/>



In the News . . .

[Gen Z is bringing back reading_\(msn.com\)](#)

Gen Z is Bringing Back Reading

Story by Joel Mathis, The Week US

Feb. 14, 2024

Here's a tip for older folks looking to keep up with the latest trends among young people: Go to the library.

It's a "surprising Gen Z plot twist," The Guardian said. Young adults and adolescents — folks born between 1997 and 2012 — are really into reading. Real books, the kind you find on paper. Leading the way: Kaia Gerber, the 22-year-old model-actress daughter of Gen X icon Cindy Crawford, this week launched her own book club. "Books have always been the great love of my life," Gerber said. "Reading is so sexy."

But Gen Z readers don't need an influencer to embrace books. At The Conversation, Portland State University's Kathi Inman Berens and Rachel Noorda said their research found that "Gen Zers and millennials prefer books in print over e-books and audiobooks" which has manifested in an "unlikely love affair with their local libraries." Why? Maybe it's because libraries are "free from the insipid creep of commercialism." There are no ads and fees: You simply can check out a book for free.

That's heartening news for libraries facing budget cuts and book bans, Lora Kelly said at The Atlantic. Even Gen Z respondents who don't identify as readers still like hanging out at the library, looking for "events, classes, or simply to find community." That's because modern libraries offer more than just reading material: "They are also about providing people with a 'third place' for programming, services, and socializing."



Why Didn't I Think of That?

Hailey Public Library is hosting free knitting classes. Hailey Public Library Programs Manager Kristin Fletcher said, "The library has been delighted by how many people -- young and old -- want to learn this beautiful and traditional skill."



The **Boise Public Library! at Hillcrest** has an innovative way for Idahoans to connect. It's speed dating with a twist -- participants have four minutes to chat with a stranger and potentially make a new friend, before rotating on to the next conversation. The comfortable atmosphere of the library allows for ease of conversation between attendees.

McCall *Visit* McCall | STAY | THINGS TO DO | EAT | LIFESTYLE

Repair Fair at McCall Public Library

FEB 17, 2024 @ 11:00 AM - 1:30 PM



McCall Public Library

Come explore simple repair techniques at the McCall library! People with repair skills will provide guidance. Bring your troubled items, a "mend it" mindset, and your appreciation, and we will fix it together!