

The Scoop

Fun, inspiring and innovative ideas
for library youth services

Vol. 16 No. 1
Jan 9, 2020

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DATES & DEADLINES

- Apply now for the [Underserved Children: Welcoming Libraries Grant](#) – open Jan 1 – Jan 31.
- Apply now for the [Summer STEM Grant](#) – open Jan 1 – until all spaces filled
- Apply now for the [20-21 SLA Mini-Grant](#) – open
- Registration open for [Jump Start Kindergarten](#) program
- Registration open for [Outreach for Underserved Children](#) program
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WELCOME

By Jennifer Redford

As I was picking up my kids from daycare this week, the most amazing thing happened: it was still light outside! The sun was visible in the blue sky. The air was clear. It was still cold, but warm enough that I didn't need a hat. It was a day of almost-spring in the middle of winter.

I'm sure there is a scientific explanation for a moment of spring in January, but I like to think that all of the planning that ICfL has been doing for this spring and summer may have willed the coldish-warmth into existence. And maybe, if the entire Idaho library community starts planning for summer, we can make this the summeriest-winter yet!



Photo Credit: freepik.com

However, the meteorologists and the weather app on my phone say that it's supposed to snow for the rest of the week. So I will make a cup of tea, resist ordering [these USB heated fingerless gloves from Amazon](#), and continue to make plans for warmer weather.

If you want to start planning for spring and summer too, check out the [Twins and Teens](#) section for info on upcoming regional trainings, our new [Grant Opportunities](#) section for applications for a new grant to make your library more welcoming and the Summer STEM grant, and of course the [Summer Reading](#) section because it's never too early to plan for that. And since this *is* Idaho and we can probably look forward to a couple of more months of cold weather, find a comfy chair and hot drink of your own and enjoy this longer edition of "The Scoop."

LIBRARY TO LIBRARY

Idaho Libraries Win Big with Bucks for Books



In September 2019, the Idaho Lottery, along with the Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL), implemented the Bucks for Books initiative to benefit elementary school libraries throughout Idaho. The Lottery's VIP members were invited to donate their points to the program, and donate they did. Thanks to the generosity of the Idaho Lottery's VIP members, the Idaho Lottery's goal was reached in one day!



Central Elementary (Nampa) receives its check from the Idaho Lottery and new books for the library.

The Idaho Lottery provided \$30,000 in funding to 12 elementary schools. The funds were awarded through a grant application process, in amounts of between \$1,000 and \$3,000. In December 2019, the Idaho Lottery and ICfL presented the 12 school libraries with the funds and a big box of new books, which were purchased with money raised by the Lottery at bookfairs held at Barnes & Noble.

Continue Reading

Lewiston Choir Worth Their Weight in Gold

~Submitted by Debbie Allen, Lewiston City Library

What better way to get into the holiday spirit than a concert with the Lewiston High School Gold Voices singing group. This annual event at the Lewiston City Library on December 11 was attended by 89 people and 32 singing teenagers. Under the direction of LHS Choir Director Julie Burke this amazing group sang a medley of holiday songs ending with a sing-a-long of "Deck the Halls." Hot apple cider and cookies were provided by the Friends of the Lewiston



City Library and were quickly gobbled up and enjoyed by all. Many comments were heard about how incredible this group was. Patrons as well as staff look forward to this event every December and if you have a local school choir, I highly recommend asking them to come sing at your library. The library is not

only filled with lovely holiday songs, helping to get you into the holiday spirit, but also showcases local teens in a positive and productive manner.

Twin Falls Public Library's "Ready, Set Kindergarten" Makes the News

Here's a nice story that not only promotes the library's program, but also highlights the critical issue of affordable and accessible preschool programs in Idaho. Nice job, **Kasi Allen** and the Twin Falls Library staff!

Continue reading...

TWEENS & TEENS

YALSA Teen Services Competencies for Library Staff

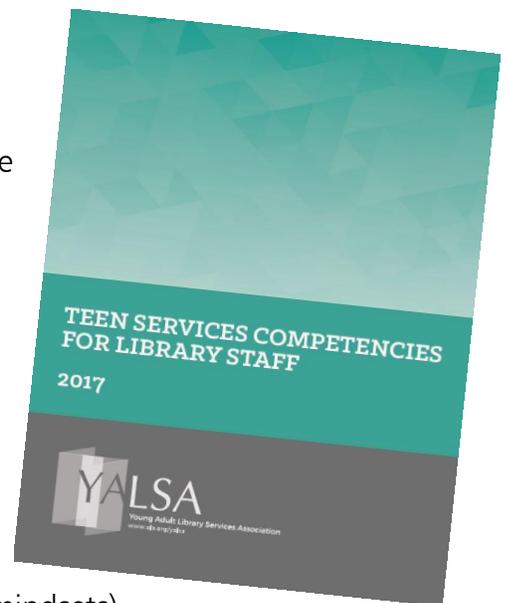
A Year-Long Dive into Serving Teens

In 2017, the Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA) published the [YALSA Teen Services Competencies for Library Staff](#). The document outlines 10 competencies that library staff who serve teens should work toward. Over the next year, we will take a close look at each competency in "The Scoop," and offer tips and resources to help you build your skill level with teens in your library.

As you learn more about the competencies, you may find that you have a different proficiency level for each skill. YALSA describes these different levels as Developing (having a minimum amount of knowledge), Practicing (knowing enough to begin integrating the competencies into practice) and Transforming (having advanced knowledge and skills that transform library services and mindsets). Understanding your skill level will help you decide which competencies you would like to improve.

Serving teens may be a small part of your job or may be your entire focus. Either way, YALSA has identified several characteristics that a professional working with teens in a library should have. These include the following (from page 4 of the [Competencies](#)):

- Maintains an open and ongoing curiosity about the fields of teen development and learning
- Shows warmth, caring, and respect for all teens and their families
- Recognizes and respects the diversity of teens and their families, and understands this diversity impacts all areas of practice
- Recognizes the systemic inequities that exist in our institutions and communities and strives to dismantle them and to provide equitable access for and with all youth
- Takes an asset-based approach to working for and with teens and their families



- Values creativity and imagination in learning, and promotes those attributes in teens and in themselves
- Demonstrates responsible professional and personal habits in interacting and working with others, and models and practices a positive attitude
- Responds to challenges and changes with flexibility, perseverance, and cooperation
- Communicates respectfully, clearly, and effectively with all teens and adults
- Recognizes that quality library services support teens and families, and bridge the gap between school and home
- Values the importance of collaboration and engagement with youth development stakeholders, community members and organizations, and local decision makers
- Values ongoing professional development and continually seeks to increase their own knowledge and skills to support teen development and learning
- Upholds the right of all, including teens, to free expression and free access to a depth and breadth of ideas and information

Hopefully, the dispositions referenced above resonate with you. Next month, we will begin our exploration of each of the 10 competencies with **Teen Growth and Development**.

Can't wait until next month, or just want to chat about all things teen? Contact Jennifer Redford: jennifer.redford@libraries.idaho.gov or 208-639-4147.

In Search Of: Volunteers...Who Don't Mind Extra Email

As the community of Idaho library staff serving teens grows, ICfL has been looking for a way to keep everyone connected and communicate to this large group of public and school librarians without disrupting the norms of more general listservs like LibIdaho. *If you are interested in helping us pilot a new listserv-type solution exclusively for teen services*, send an email to [Jennifer Redford](mailto:Jennifer.Redford).



Photo credit: rawpixel.com

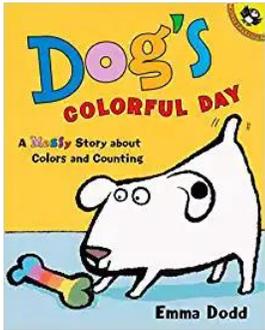
Transforming Teen Services Trainings

ICfL is offering several opportunities for in-person Teen Services trainings over the next year. All of the trainings were developed by YALSA and are aimed at improving competencies for library staff serving teens. The content primarily covers Connected Learning and Computational Thinking, and also includes information on the developmental stages of teens and tweens as well as how to facilitate learning for teens. Here are the upcoming dates for day-long Transforming Teen Services Trainings around the state:

- **February 3:** Boise at ICfL; [REGISTER HERE](#) NOTE: Registration closes on Jan. 24, 2020.
- **April 8:** Rexburg on the BYU Campus; registration opens in February
- **April 29:** Coeur d'Alene Public Library; registration opens in February
- **April 30:** Lewiston Public Library; registration opens in February

Don't see a date that works for you? Want to bring parts of the training to a larger group in your region or at your library? [Contact Jennifer](#) and let's chat.

KINDERGARTEN READY CORNER



New Jump Start Kindergarten books are here!

The new book for Jump Start Kindergarten outreach events is now available!

This new book, [Dog's Colorful Day: A Messy Story About Colors and Counting](#), by Emma Dodd, is the newest book to receive a custom imprint with the Five Early Literacy Practices on the inside front cover and to be made available for use for any Jump Start Kindergarten outreach event by public libraries (or school libraries in some cases). This book touches on some of the skills three-, four- and five-year-old children can practice with their caregivers in the year before they start Kindergarten. These books, and additional ICfL materials, can be requested for outreach events which target children ages 3-5 and their caregivers for Kindergarten registration or any outreach event focused on this target audience AND where the adults in their lives will be present at the event. To find out more about the program requirements, visit the Jump Start Kindergarten page of the ICfL website:

[Info / Register](#)

Idaho Is Awarded Multimillion Dollar Preschool Development Grant

Idaho is one of only four states that does not fund preschool with state dollars, and leaders have passed on the opportunity to apply for federal grants in the past few years that would provide statewide funding. Last fall, however, Governor Little gave his permission to apply for a federal Preschool Development Grant that focuses on support for families with children ages birth to age five.

A cohort of early childhood professionals and practitioners, including staff from the ICfL, then met to examine the grant's five goals, which focus on establishing infrastructure that supports future statewide preschool programs.

- 1) Conducting a Needs Assessment
- 2) Developing a Strategic Plan
- 3) Maximizing Parental Choice and Knowledge
- 4) Sharing Best Practices among Early Care/Education Providers
- 5) Improving Overall Quality of Early Care/Education Programs, Providers, and Services

Led by the Idaho Association for the Education of Young Children (Idaho AEYC), the grant was submitted and ultimately awarded for 3.3 million dollars. The grant period started January 1, 2020 and will continue through December 31, 2020. [See story in Idaho EdNews, 12/19/19...](#)

Representatives from ICfL and the Idaho Library Association (ILA) are actively working with the cohort in the planning and implementation of Activities 3 and 4; many Idaho libraries are already doing work in these areas, and it is our hope to involve as many libraries as are willing to help deliver messaging, educate parents and caregivers, and participate in regional early learning communities. As details and logistics are worked out in the next month or so, we'll share those through the Scoop and LibIdaho.

Libraries play a critical role in helping children prepare for success in kindergarten and beyond, and they are valuable partners in community collaboratives or statewide initiatives that provide increased access to high-quality learning environments. We are thrilled that Idaho libraries are included in this landmark opportunity to advance preK in our state. Stay tuned!

Questions? Want to be more involved? Contact [Staci Shaw](#) (ICfL) or [Anna Langrill](#) (ILA/Ada Community Library)

Kindergarten Readiness Challenge

The Kindergarten Readiness Challenge (KRC) Toolkit is now up on our website and available for use by any Idaho public library. With a small group of your library colleagues, work your way through this five-part toolkit and learn where your community and library stands in terms of Kindergarten readiness and how your library can help fill those gaps with library services.

Let us know if you've tried it out and have feedback for ICfL's Youth Services Team.

You can find the downloadable toolkit on our website under Read To Me/Resources:

[Learn More](#)



Kindergarten Readiness Opportunity Available through Waterford UPSTART

Through an Education Innovation Research (EIR) Grant awarded by the US Department of Education, Idaho will join five states in piloting the Waterford UPSTART program, an at-home kindergarten readiness computer program which has been used in Utah and other states for the past several years. Supporting the belief that learning begins at home, the program is designed to help parents be their child's first teacher. The program and support staff will be provided at **no cost** to families. The software sessions are limited to 15 – 20 minutes per day.

UPSTART is recruiting children with birth dates ranging from 9/02/15 through 9/01/2016.

ICfL is supporting the recruitment of Idaho families in this pilot for the following reasons:

- The program targets children in the year before kindergarten.
- **Technology is provided at no cost** to qualifying participants, and all families are paired with a **Family Education Liaison (FEL)**, who provides personalized updates, guidance, and encouragement.

- Waterford UPSTART will provide a **FREE Chromebook** (which families may keep upon completion of the program), as well as **internet** while families are enrolled in the program (must qualify).
- A version of the software is **available in Spanish and other languages**.

Read more details about the program...

To find out more about UPSTART, including studies conducted by the company regarding the program's effectiveness, see <https://www.waterfordupstart.org/results/>.

Two flyers are provided for you to display in your library or take to your outreach partners, one in **English** and one in **Spanish**. The registration information is included on each of those. The direct link is: www.waterfordupstart.org.

Questions about this program may be directed to:

Isaac Troyo

Director of National UPSTART Program Implementations, Waterford Research Institute

801-349-2279

isaactroyo@waterford.org



SCHOOL ZONE

Important Reminders for School Librarians

While looking forward to a brand-new year and a brand-new decade, don't forget to wrap up a few loose ends from 2019:

Summer Summit 2019 Participants:

Thank you to those who have already sent in your completed book trailers from The Mini-Maker session at Summer Summit. They were fun and entertaining, and I hope your students and teachers enjoyed them, too. If you've not yet had a chance to finish that book trailer and need a little reminder about what it's all about, check the Summer Summit page to refresh your memory.

Attendance at one of the following Zoom meetings is required:

- **Monday, January 13, 2020 at 8:00am MST/7:00am PST**
Join Zoom Meeting at: <https://zoom.us/j/497089863>

or

- **Thursday, January 16, 2020 at 2:00pm MST/1:00pm PST**
Join Zoom Meeting at: <https://zoom.us/j/787776527>

2019-2020 SLA Mini-Grant Participants:

Round 1 and Round 2 Interim Grant Reports are due January 17, 2020. Find the report form at <https://libraries.idaho.gov/school-libraries/elementary-school-grants/> under Reports and Documents.

Elementary School Library Access Mini-Grant Application Window Open!

Publicly funded elementary schools in Idaho have an opportunity to apply for grant funding to purchase books for their library collections! There are two grant opportunities:

Elementary School Library Access (SLA) Mini-Grant Round 1:

- School must have a library space and a paid, contracted staff member who manages day-to-day oversight and operations;
- School must not have received the SLA Mini-Grant before;
- School must serve kindergarten and first grade students; and
- School administration must agree to all the grant requirements listed on the grant application.

Elementary School Library Access (SLA) Mini-Grant Round 2:

- School must have a library space and a paid, contracted staff member who manages day-to-day oversight and operations;
- School must have received the Round 1 grant before the 2017-2018 school year (that's at least 3 years ago);
- School must serve any combination of kindergarten through sixth grade students; and
- School's district and building administration must agree to match 25% of funds awarded in the form of a book budget for the school library, along with all the requirements listed on the grant application.

Get all the details, check to see what SLA grants your school has received, and find the applications at <https://libraries.idaho.gov/school-libraries/elementary-school-grants/>.

Application Deadline is April 3, 2020.

The Lilead Project Offers Courses Open to All School Librarians

The Lilead Project is offering courses to school librarians who are interested in furthering their professional development. The upcoming course will cover evidence-based practice (EBP) and its implementation in schools. It is not necessary to have participated in the first course to participate in this, the second course. It is not free but at \$349, it is a great CEU value. This course runs from January 12-March 4, 2020.



There is still time to register at <https://mailchi.mp/c01c3f560203/work-toward-transformational-change-with-the-lilead-project-652621?e=d484603cae>.

Libraries and Census 2020

Wondering about the upcoming census and making sense of the information and misinformation that is making the rounds? Join us for the February Info2Go on February 10, 2020, from 12:30-1:30 MST to learn how you can support a complete count in Idaho from your library! Carolina Valderrama-Echavarria, Partnership Specialist for Idaho from the U.S. Census Bureau will be there to answer all your questions, along with Lisa Egan from the Latah County Library District who will offer more library-specific

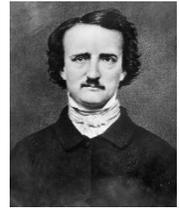
information. School librarians can attend to learn more about a program to reach hard-to-count populations through school libraries.

[Learn More / Register](#)



January's Nonfiction Book of the Month

January's Low Hanging Fruit: Happy Birthday, Edgar Allan Poe!



UPCOMING EVENTS

Take Your Child to the Library Day is Saturday, February 1, 2020

Join the fun and get on board for this 9th Annual event to raise community awareness about the importance of the library in the life of child which promotes library services and programs for children and families.



Key facts:

- Take Your Child to the Library Day (TYCLD) is scheduled worldwide for Feb 1, but the celebration is flexible and may take place any date/s in February to suit your library or community.
- TYCLD originally launched in 2011 and was initiated by Connecticut librarians Nadine Lipman and Caitlin Augusta and artist Nancy Elizabeth Wallace. Worldwide use of their logos, program art, marketing material, bookmarks and brochures are encouraged.
- Participating libraries are encouraged to register their TYCLD celebrations on the TYCLD website. It's free and helpful for the initiative. Registration and program materials can be found here:

[Learn More](#)



Outreach for Underserved Children

The Outreach for Underserved Children program provides resources to enhance public library outreach visits, reaching those children who cannot get to their local library and increasing the number of families with access to books in their homes throughout the year. Each library branch may request paperback books from this program twice a year. Don't forget to submit your request for a special library outreach event to serve the children in your community with the greatest need.

The program application is open August 15 – June 15 each year.

The updated requirements and revised request limits are on the program webpage:

[Learn More](#)

Youth Media Awards, January 27

The ALA Youth Media Awards (Newbery, Caldecott and more) will be announced Monday, January 27 at 8:00 am Eastern Time. You can livestream by visiting ala.unikron.com for the webcast, or Facebook Live @AmericanLibraryAssociation, or follow hashtag #alayma20.

Read an interview with an Idaho librarian who served on a past Caldecott Selection Committee in our [Feature](#) section!

Early Years Conference 2020: Save the Date

The ICfL hopes to offer support for registration and lodging for this biennial conference, held in Boise. Look for more information in the spring!



TIPS AND TOOLS

United Through Reading App for Military Families

“Share Story Time...No Matter the Distance”

United Through Reading (UTR) connects military families who are separated – for deployment or military assignment – by providing the bonding experience of shared storytime. For 30 years, UTR has provided the opportunity for service members to be video recorded reading a storybook aloud to a child they love. This opportunity still exists through UTR’s 200 Story Stations around the world, however, a new app has been developed to allow service members to record their own storytime anytime, anywhere with the UTR app.



Let's make sure our military families know about this great resource for bonding through stories!

[Learn More](#)

January Info2Go Webinar: Grant Writing Tips & ICfL Open Grants

Come learn some basic grant writing tips, tricks and resources. This webinar will also touch base on the ICfL grants that will be open in January 2020. Specific grant opportunities that will be covered are:

- Welcoming Libraries Grant
- Summer STEM from Your Library Grant
- School Library Access Grants (Round 1 and 2)
- Continuing Education Grants – there are 4 of them!

When: January 13, 2020, 12:30 MST/ 11:30 PST.

Presented By: Jamie Mott, ICfL Grants Officer; Kristina Taylor, Youth Services Project Coordinator; and Jeannie Standal, School Library Consultant

Cost: FREE

[Learn More / Register](#)

Championing Children's Service Toolkit

The [Association for Library Service to Children](#) (ALSC) has recently released an advocacy tool for children's library workers. The [Toolkit](#) can help you advocate for library programs that benefit children, and the accompanying [Because Statements Infographic](#) can help you craft a message for stakeholders in your community and library.

[Learn More](#)



GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

ICfL Grant Opportunities

Underserved Children: Welcoming Libraries Grant

The Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) embraces the idea that libraries should be welcoming and engaging spaces for all people. The Underserved Children: Welcoming Libraries Grant (WLG) will focus on activities which improve equity, diversity and inclusion in Idaho libraries and better serve the community's underserved groups of children. **ICfL will award up to 14 public or school libraries \$500 each to support library work, staff development and activities which improve library spaces, collections and programs to accommodate the needs of every user.** ICfL will also provide a toolkit of guides, assessment tools, articles and other resources to support the allowable grant activities.

The Welcoming Libraries Grant program has three primary goals:

- Increase school and public libraries' understanding of the specific community they serve and how this understanding is reflected in their professional development plans, collection development practices, and physical library spaces;
- Ensure all school and public library patrons find library resources that both reflect their experiences (mirrors) and that teach them about those who are different from themselves (windows);
- Support school and public libraries and library staff as they work to make their library resources and spaces more welcoming and accessible to all;
- To better serve underserved children with diverse and inclusive resources.

The WLG will be open for applications from January 1 – January 31. This is a competitive grant with a corresponding scoring rubric.

Learn about the allowable grant activities and timeline, preview the grant toolkit, and scope out the grant application here:

[Learn More/Apply](#)

Summer STEM Grant 2020

It's cold outside –start dreaming of and planning for those hot summer months by applying for this year's Summer STEM grant. The Idaho STEM Action Center has provided funds to the Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) to award up to 65 public, school, or academic libraries \$500 each to help pay for materials or presenters to support STEM outreach efforts during the summer. ICfL will also help provide a toolkit for learning activities, a branded yard sign and other resources.



The Summer STEM from Your Library program has three primary goals:

- Increase access to fun, engaging, hands-on STEM activities for underserved youth beyond the normal library programming efforts;
- Increase children's access to books over the summer months;
- Increase the number of children who minimize learning loss during the summer;

This year's Summer STEM grants are being awarded on a first-come, first-served basis (assuming your library agrees to meet the terms of the grant), so apply soon!

More info and a link to the 2020 Summer STEM application can be found here:

[Learn More/Apply](#)

IMLS Grants to States Increase for FY2020

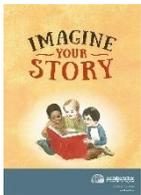
This is just a note to let everyone know that the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) received a \$10 million funding increase for the upcoming year, the largest increase for the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) in 12 years! This budget amount included \$166.8 million for the LSTA Grants to States program, which administers the federal funding the ICfL receives. (In FY19, the LSTA Grants to States budget was \$160.8 million).

[Read article from the American Library Association...](#)

Thanks to your efforts to contact your congressional representatives, along with the detailed information you provide to ICfL on your LSTA-funded program reports, federal decision-makers were able to see the value of investing in the nation's libraries. ICfL uses its IMLS grant to fund many programs and services, including most of its youth services programs, the Talking Book Service, emerging technologies, continuing education, and more.

SUMMER READING NEWS

Posters Ordered



As a follow-up to the notice posted on LibIdaho in December, the 2020 "Imagine Your Story" posters were ordered for all Idaho libraries. [Because there is only one design choice now](#) we ordered four posters for each library. We'll ship those out to you when they come in. Unless you do NOT want posters, or do not want FOUR of these, there is no need to contact us.

Summer Reading Support

If you missed last month's feature article about ICfL support for summer reading this year, please check out the archived issue here: <https://libraries.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/Scoop-12-5-19Ssha.pdf>

We've been getting some inquiries about posters, books, etc., and most of those questions are answered in the article. The only question mark now is regarding State Parks Passes, and I hope to have that determined within a week.

News from CSLP

Newsletter

Read the current CSLP newsletter [here](#). *Note that there is a correction to the newsletter: The Ilsley Public Library is in Middlebury, Vermont (not Connecticut).*

Website Login and Password

While performing database maintenance to the CSLP server, some user passwords were reset to their random defaults. If you have an account on the CSLP website and find you are unable to log in, please click on the "Lost your password?" link and follow the steps. If you have any difficulty, you may also

email Karen Day (karen.day@cslpreads.org) or Luke Kralik (luke.kralik@cslpreads.org) at CSLP, and they will manually reset your password. Thank you for your understanding.

Social Media Toolkit

Ready-made summer reading posts, banners, graphics and more for your Facebook, Twitter, and other social media platforms, on a month-by-month basis. Be sure to use [#ImagineYourStory](#) and [#LibrariesImagine](#).

More Info

FEATURED:

Interview with a Caldecott Selection Committee Member



Megan Egbert, District Programs Manager
Meridian Library District

In anticipation of the 2020 Youth Media Awards later this month, here is an interview with Megan Egbert, District Programs Manager at Meridian Library District. Megan sat on last year's Caldecott selection committee and answered a few questions that we had about her experience:

How did you get selected for the committee?

In 2012, I was very fortunate to be selected as an attendee for the Morris Seminar. This training is intended to prepare people to be on award committees. Afterward, I was asked to be on the ballot for the Caldecott Committee twice, but with only ALSC (Association for Library Services to Children) members able to vote, and low ALSC participation in Idaho, it was an uphill battle. Eventually, I was appointed to the committee after successfully serving on several other ALSC committees that are not associated with book awards. My advice to anyone who wants to be on a committee is to review books as much as you can, and say yes whenever you can.

How many other people were on the committee?

The committee is always made up of 15 people, including the chair. Seven are voted on it from an election process and 8 are appointed.

How many books did you read?

We received almost 1,000 books. So at least that many.

What were some of your favorite books from last year that did not win?

Unfortunately, even after our year of work is done, we still can't really talk about books from that year. I could say "I love this book" about a book published that year in a conversation, but I can't really talk about specific titles that didn't win without sounding like I think those titles were worthy of an award! What I can say is there were many, many beautiful picture books published in 2018.

How did the committee make its decision?

Each month committee members can make suggestions. This is just a suggestion of a book that the committee should look at closely. Then, come October, each committee member must make 7 written nominations. At first, you are just looking for books that stand out. But as you read, and re-read, and take notes, you start to be able to articulate why certain books are distinguished, and that is what you explain in your nomination. Only books that are nominated get discussed in person. The compiled list of all nominations is brought to mid-winter, and depending on how many there are, you allot a designated amount of time to discuss each title. As you discuss, you can start to ask if the committee is ready to remove books from the list of remaining titles. Eventually, you'll get to a place where you only have a handful of titles left (Ok, eventually can mean three days later). At this point, you start a balloting process. On a ballot, each committee member selects a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choice book. First choice selections are awarded four points, the second place are awarded three points, and third place are awarded two points. In order to win the Caldecott medal, a book has to have at least eight first-place votes and it has to be eight points ahead of runner up. It is complicated!

What do you like about last year's winner, "Hello Lighthouse"?

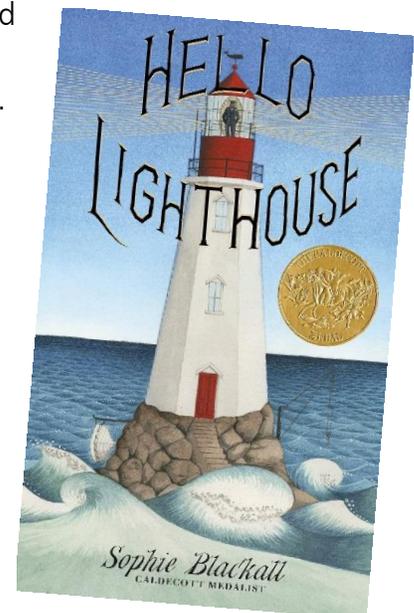
Everything! But the things I want to point out are the quiet, thoughtful details that make this book so spectacular. Everything from the size of the book, to the weight of the paper, the circular lines, and the intricate patterns. This book transports you into a lighthouse.

Did you receive books to review from publishers? What did you do with them after the awards?

Prior to being on the Caldecott Committee, I reviewed books for School Library Journal. When you are on a committee you have to stop reviewing for any publications that use your name. With those books I donated them all to my library, which is what I did with most of my Caldecott books too. They became summer reading giveaways. I do have some publishers who still send me books (although not 1,000/year!) and I usually have no problem finding somewhere to donate them.

Any predictions for this year's winner?

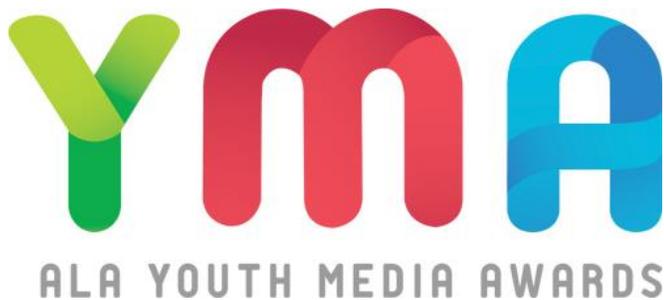
Well, after being on the actual committee I can confidently say there is no such thing as predictions, just lucky guesses! But I am thoroughly impressed with three of our honorees from last year, and their latest titles (*Saturday*, *Oge Mora*, *Big Bed for Little Snow*, Grace Lin, and *Fry Bread*, Juana Martinez-Neal). I also



really love *My Papi Has a Motorcycle*, *Nine Months*, *The Undeclared*, and *The Important Thing About Margaret Wise Brown*.

Anything else about your experience that you would like to share?

A few things that I always like to highlight about the experience 1) Just how much work it is. Truly. 2) Just how much criticism there will be. Which is OK. This is a big decision with a huge impact. There should be criticism. But it is hard when you can't speak about the ins and outs of the process to shed light on why the committee made specific decisions. 3) Just how rewarding it is. I've had dinner with some of the most talented illustrators alive. I have original art pieces from every winner. But most importantly, to me, I have 14 new friends who I shared this amazing experience with.



This year's Youth Media Awards will take place **Monday, January 27th, 2020, at 8:00 a.m. EST**. You can follow the ceremony live at <http://ala.unikron.com>, @AmericanLibraryAssociation or by following #ALAYma20. The Youth Media Awards include the Newbery, Caldecott, Printz, and Coretta Scott King Book Awards, along with several others. [Learn more here.](#)

CE NEWS YOU CAN USE

New Year, New Consultant!

Meet Annie Gaines, the new Continuing Education Consultant at ICfL

Happy New Year! My name is Annie Gaines and I am thrilled to be joining the Idaho Commission for Libraries as the new library consultant for continuing education. You'll probably be "seeing" a lot of me in your inboxes!

Did you know the ICfL will cover some or all of the cost of online continuing education courses or webinars through [InfoPeople](#), [Library Juice](#), and [Amigos](#)? It's true! If there's an online course or webinar from these providers you'd like to take, you can apply for funding by completing the corresponding Course Access Request Form accessible from this page: <https://libraries.idaho.gov/continuing-education/partner-training-opportunities/>. To qualify for ICfL CE funds, the recipients must apply at least 30 days before the start date, agree to complete the course/webinar and agree to complete the follow-up survey.

Below are two upcoming online courses that could be a good fit for you.

Teen Services Fundamentals (InfoPeople) | February 11, 2020 – March 9, 2020

- Details & overview: <https://infopeople.org/civicrm/event/info?id=881&reset=1>
- Course access request form (InfoPeople): <https://form.jotform.com/icfl/course-access-request-infopeople>

You'll come away from the course with an understanding of the developmental needs of teens in our diverse society and tools to identify and enhance the library's role in meeting those needs. This course will enable you to advocate for teens and for library services geared specifically to them.

Early Literacy Enhanced Storytimes: Supercharging Your Storytime Using Interactivity, Intentionality, and Assessment to Help Children Learn with Joy (Library Juice) | February 3, 2020 – March 1, 2020

- Details & overview: <https://libraryjuiceacademy.com/167-enhanced-storytimes.php>
- Course access request form (Library Juice): <https://form.jotform.com/73174237918968>

Participants in this course will explore activities that support early literacy, transform their own storytimes into early literacy enhanced storytimes, convey early literacy information and activities to parents/caregivers in the storytime setting, examine and implement storytime assessment tools, and articulate the importance of library services in terms of early literacy programs.

DIVERSITY IN ACTION

Understanding “Windows and Mirrors”

Heard this phrase in the library world or at a conference but aren't sure exactly what is meant by it? Watch to this 12-minute [Tedx Talk by renowned author Grace Lin](#) and you will wonder no more. Grace's talk shows how the books that are not on your child's bookshelf (or your library's bookshelf) are just as important as those that are.

Interested in embarking on important work that will bring more windows and mirrors into your library? Check out the new [Underserved Children: Welcoming Libraries Grant](#) and the resources provided to support this grant or in the [Grant Opportunities](#) section of this newsletter.

Chapter Book Recommendations Featuring Disability Experiences

From Denver Public Library's “Read - Play - Learn” program:

“All children benefit from seeing themselves reflected in the books they read, including children with disabilities. These chapter books are all highly enjoyable reads that feature characters with disabilities. Reading books with differently-abled characters also helps children develop an understanding of life with a disability.”

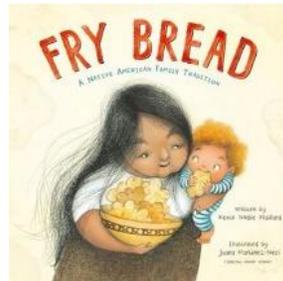
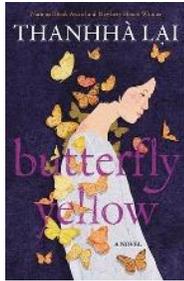


Read on and view the full list of recommended chapter books:

[Learn More](#)

Best Multicultural Books of 2019

The Center for the Study of Multicultural Childrens Literature has announced its list of Best Books of 2019: www.csmcl.org/best-books-2019. There is a slideshow of the book jackets and descriptions, and a printable PDF of the booklist at the bottom of the page.



STEAM

Dimensions of Success – What Makes a STEM Program Successful?

The [PEAR Institute](#) is an organization founded at Harvard University that has created an observation tool to measure the success of STEM programs for school-age youth called [Dimensions of Success](#). From the website:

Dimensions of Success (DoS) is an overarching framework that defines key aspects of a quality STEM learning experience. DoS forms the backbone of a suite of tools and guides designed to help out-of-school-time (OST) programs (e.g., afterschool programs, summer camps, etc.) improve the quality of their STEM offerings. It was developed and studied with funding from the National Science Foundation (NSF) by The PEAR Institute, along with partners [Educational Testing Services](#) (ETS) and [Project Liftoff](#). The DoS suite of tools allows researchers, practitioners, funders, and other stakeholders to track the quality of STEM learning opportunities and to pinpoint strengths and weaknesses. The Dimensions of Success observation tool is a validated research tool, with a [validation paper published in *Science Education*](#).



Last year, through a partnership with The PEAR Institute and the [Idaho Out-of-School Network](#), several people in Idaho were able to become certified in observing STEM programs according to the Dimensions of Success. Jennifer Redford, Youth Services Consultant at ICfL, is one of the certified observers. If you would like to have someone observe your STEM program and provide feedback, you can contact Jennifer (jennifer.redford@libraries.idaho.gov) or Dianna McAllister from the Idaho Out-of-School Network (dmcallister@jannus.org). Over the next year, part of this section of "The Scoop" will be devoted to exploring each of the dimensions in-depth to help you improve STEM (and STEAM!) programs at your library.

BOOK LOOK

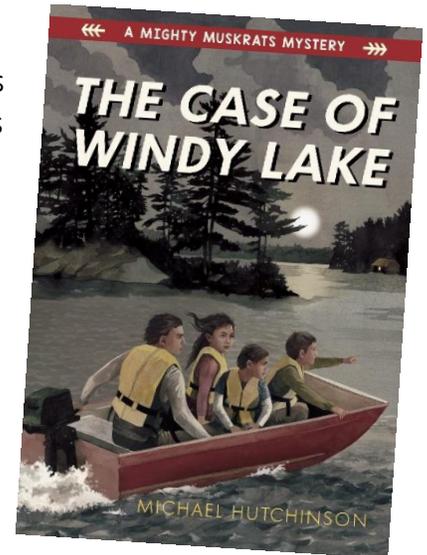
The Mighty Muskrats Mystery Series

An Indigenous Mystery Series in the Hardy Boys Tradition

Author Michael Hutchinson is a member of the Misipawistik Cree Nation, north of Winnipeg. He currently lives in Ottawa, Ontario, where he works at the Assembly of First Nations, which advocates for First Nation families and communities across Canada. [From the publisher](#), Second Story Press:

“Sam, Otter, Atim, and Chickadee are four inseparable cousins growing up on the Windy Lake First Nation. Nicknamed the Mighty Muskrats for their habit of laughing, fighting, and exploring together, the cousins find that each new adventure adds to their reputation.”

The first book in the series, “The Case of Windy Lake” was the co-winner in Second Story Press’ 2018 Indigenous Writing Contest, and the second book, “The Case of the Missing Auntie,” is due out in March of this year.



Talk Back: *We welcome your feedback on anything in The Scoop. Just email [Staci](#), [Kristina](#), [Jeannie](#) or [Jennifer](#) and we'll print your comments in The Scoop.*

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