

# The Scoop

Fun, inspiring and innovative ideas  
for library youth services

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## DATES & DEADLINES

- Kindergarten Readiness Grants for 2023-2024 due August 24
- Nominations for ILA Awards & Scholarships due August 28
- Summer Reading, Outreach for Underserved Children & Jump Start Kindergarten program reports due September 15
- Save the Date: ION's Power Up Summit in Boise is September 20-21
- Save the Date: Boise Comic Arts Festival & Librarian/Educators Day is September 29 & October 1

## WELCOME

By Kristina Taylor

It's July, officially summer, and I learned something new this weekend: the meaning behind the phrase "the dog days of summer!" Contrary to my understanding, the dog days of summer does NOT refer to the fact that it's so hot outside our canine friends are feeling extra hot in their fur. No, it refers to the stars! Specifically, Sirius, the dog star, which can only be seen in the night sky of the northern hemisphere during the height of our summer months. I've read that Sirius means "scorcher" in Greek. When sighted in the night sky, it became known as the precursor to the hot and thunderstorm phase of summer. And there you have it: [the dog days of summer!](#)

Here at the ICfL, we love enjoying our ice cream during the dog days of summer. We wish you a [Happy National Ice Cream Month](#), as usual, in this issue of *The Scoop*! We also give you the gift of a mini-Scoop edition this month. Enjoy!



## TWEENS & TEENS

### Self-Paced Teen Services Professional Development

Are you interested in FREE, self-paced learning to help you grow? Check out the ICfL's Niche Academy [training for library workers who serve teens](#), including the comprehensive [Transforming Teen Services](#) tutorial.

### Save the Date: Power Up Summit 2023



The Idaho Out-of-School Network's (ION) Annual Power Up Summit will be held **September 20 and 21, 2023, at JUMP in Boise**. This conference is for those who run programs or offer services that youth may access in summer, after school, at camps, or even online. It is the only statewide conference dedicated solely to out-of-school time. This year's theme is "Power Up and Grow."

[Learn More / Register](#)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Boise Comic Arts Festival – Free Librarians & Educators Day in September

Thanks to staff at the Boise Public Library, the [Boise Comic Arts Festival](#) will return in 2023 for its 11th year of fun and activities. The festival features Artists' Alley, cosplay, panels, a Comic Creation Contest, and performances. Mark your calendars: the event's free Librarians & Educators Day will be held Friday, September 29, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. MDT at the Idaho State Museum in downtown Boise. Lunch and a professional development credit will be provided, but registration is required. Registration will open on Friday, August 4. Check out the BPL website for the registration link, course schedule, and event information. Please send questions about Librarians & Educators Day to [Renee Addington](#).

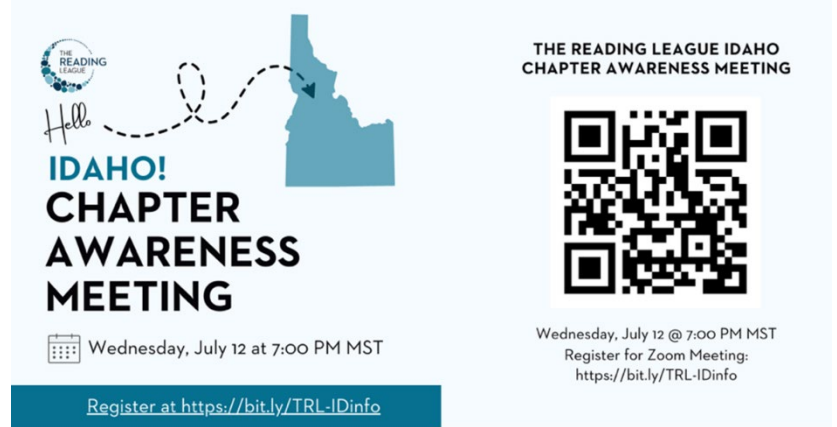


[Learn More / Register](#)

## The Reading League Idaho Chapter Meeting

"It's finally happening!!! You are all invited to The Reading League (TRL) Idaho Chapter Awareness Meeting on Wednesday, July 12, at 7 p.m. MDT. At this meeting, we will hear from Andrea Setmeyer, TRL's National Chapter Coordinator, who will share what it means to be a TRL Chapter.

Please spread the word by posting the graphics to social media and invite your colleagues, administrators, friends, and family ... anyone with an interest in reading instruction in the state of Idaho should attend this meeting."



- Jessica Fletcher, Tabitha Thach, Jessica Ziel, and Cheyenne West

[Learn More / Register](#)

## CHECK IT OUT

### ILA Award & Scholarship Nominations Open

The Idaho Library Association is now accepting nominations for the following awards and scholarships:

- Public Library of the Year
- Librarian of the Year
- Trustee of the Year
- School Librarian of the Year
- Library Friend of the Year
- Special Services Award
- Paraprofessional of the Year
- Legislator of the Year
- Gardner Hanks Scholarship (\$600)
- Idaho Library Association Scholarship (\$600)

Visit the ILA website to make a nomination or to apply for a scholarship. The deadline is **August 28, 2023**. The annual conference is planned for October 4-6, 2023, in Twin Falls – stay tuned for more information!

If you have any questions, please reach out at [ilaawardssubmission@gmail.com](mailto:ilaawardssubmission@gmail.com).

[Learn More](#)

## Bilingual Support Materials for Libraries

By **Ismael Mendoza Medina**

The Idaho Commission for Libraries is excited to bring you our first Bilingual Resource letter/blog post. It highlights important dates, information, digital resources, and even materials you will be able to order to help with your programs! If you find yourself needing more information, please contact me, Bilingual/Bicultural Project Coordinator [Ismael Mendoza Medina](#), or Youth Services Project Coordinator [Kristina Taylor](#).

[More Info](#)



## GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

### ICfL Kindergarten Readiness Grants for 2023-2024

Grants in the amounts of \$1,000 to \$10,000 are available to Idaho public libraries to better prepare children to be successful when they start school. The grant program has three primary goals:

- 1) Ensure that more Idaho families with pre-kindergarten children have public library cards to gain access to the tools and resources needed to help children succeed in school, especially for families with limited access to preschool programming or who are not regular library users.
- 2) Increase the amount of early learning activities done in the homes of pre-kindergarten children across the state.
- 3) Increase the number of successful public library, school, and community partnerships that increase third grade reading proficiency by focusing on pre-kindergarten experiences, especially for underserved children.

### New for 2023-2024

The Idaho Legislature approved additional funding for this grant program! The funds will provide two types of grants:

- The standard **K Ready grant**, which the ICfL has provided for the past several years, has the following required components:
  - Focuses on children who have not yet entered formal school
  - Includes a parent education/engagement component
  - Includes a plan for reaching underserved children and families
  - Secures an active partnership with local school(s) and/or community organization(s) serving the targeted demographic (a letter of support from each partner is required)
- The **K Ready-Set-Go minigrant** is new and allows funding in smaller amounts to support the continuation or implementation of projects that have been validated as effective models in reaching underserved children and their families. Models must meet the objectives of the standard

K Ready grant, include the four components required for the standard K Ready grant, and include an evaluation tool. Funds can support the following:

- Continuation of a previously awarded K Ready grant (expansion, extension, or enhancement)
- Replication of the My First Books program model
- Establishment of a Laundromat Literacy site or a Read, Play, Learn space at another “wait time” site
- Facilitation of READY! for Kindergarten workshops
- Facilitation of Every Child Ready to Read family workshops
- Another best practices model, approved through consultation with the ICfL

### How do I apply?

Anyone wishing to apply for either K Ready grant must first schedule a short consultation with [Staci Shaw](#). A link to the application will be provided at that time.

Applications for both types of K Ready grants are **due August 24, 2023**. The formal application link will **not be activated until July 25, 2023**. However, you may begin communicating with your community partner and gathering data for your need statement now.

We have simplified and shortened the grant application. The grant consultation with Staci should decrease the amount of time needed for you to draft responses to the application questions.

More detailed grant information is available on the ICfL [Kindergarten Readiness webpage](#). However, you may reach out to [Staci](#) now to schedule a grant consultation.

### Pilcrow Foundation Children’s Book Grant for Rural Libraries

The Pilcrow Foundation provides new, quality, hardcover children’s books to rural public libraries across the United States. Its Children’s Book Project grant offers a 2-to-1 match to rural public libraries: The library or its sponsors/partners contribute \$200 to \$400, and the Pilcrow Foundation matches with \$400 to \$800 for a total grant of \$600 to \$1,200 worth of new children’s books. The application deadlines are April 1 and October 1 each year.

Few Idaho libraries receive this grant, and it may be because the match amount is difficult to secure by the grant deadline. **We encourage you to plan ahead to apply for the October 1 round of grants. Use the increased traffic from your summer reading programs to fundraise for your match!**

[Learn More/Apply](#)





## SUMMER READING NEWS

### News from the CSLP

In the latest [Collaborative Summer Library Programs \(CSLP\) newsletter](#), you can see some cool library decorations, find resources, and read about library programs in other states that might work in your own library.

### Summer Library Programs Report Due September 15

ICfL staff ask all Idaho public libraries to submit a short report about their summer programs each year.

This data allows ICfL staff to tell stakeholders and decisionmakers how summer library programs positively impact children, teens, families, adults, and communities. Because the program manuals and posters we provide to all Idaho public libraries are funded with Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds, we also include this data in our report to the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) each fall.

Library systems with multiple branches now have the option of submitting **one report** with one data set that includes all locations. You can also still choose to submit separate reports for each location.

If you are NOT hosting a summer library program this year, please fill out a report and indicate that you did not host a program.

All libraries that submit a report by the September 15, 2023, deadline will be entered in a drawing for a chance to win a 2024 CSLP summer programs T-shirt.

Your library **MUST** submit a 2023 report to receive a program manual and posters for the 2024 theme.

[See a preview of the data we ask you to collect and submit](#)

[Submit your report](#)

Thanks to all who submit their library's report by the deadline!



## CE NEWS YOU CAN USE

Did you know the ICfL will cover 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 you'd like to take from these providers, you can apply for access by completing the corresponding Course Access Request Form accessible from [this page](#). To qualify for future CE funds for online learning, students must complete the follow-up survey and apply to access the course at least 15 days in advance.

Below are a few upcoming online courses you might be able to squeeze into your very busy schedule!

**Children's Literature through an Equity Lens and Framework** (Library Juice Academy),

August 7 – September 17, 2023

In this six-week course, students will have the opportunity to consider what an equity lens and framework means in relation to children's literature. Throughout the course, students will have the opportunity to explore the following themes and concepts: the power of stories; intersectionality; issues of representation; current issues in the children's literature industry; how our identities, positionalities and context impact our work; and how books can become springboards for inquiries and activities. Through this exploration, students will also learn how to select and curate a book collection through an equity lens. The interactive course readings, discussion board posts, videos, quote analysis, book talks, and assignments will help students build a virtual learning community. The course will also reaffirm their belief in the power and role children's literature can play in creating a more equitable and inclusive community and world.

- [Details & course overview](#)
- [Course access request form \(Library Juice Academy\)](#)

**Accessing and Advocating for Early Childhood Services** (Library Juice Academy),

August 7 – September 3, 2023

In this class, you will learn about the different methods your library can use to assess program effectiveness, including self-assessments, participant feedback surveys, and evaluations. You will get hands-on practice creating and implementing assessment tools and creating an advocacy plan for early childhood programs.

- [Details & course overview](#)
- [Course access request form \(Library Juice Academy\)](#)

**Exploring STEAM Concepts Through Storytimes** (Library Juice Academy), August 7 – September 3, 2023

While the information and activities in this training can be used to offer separate STEAM programs, the approach in this course is that these concepts are ongoing in all we do, including storytimes. By becoming aware of these connections using books and other activities, we also help storytime participants understand and build on these concepts throughout the day.

- [Details & course overview](#)
- [Course access request form \(Library Juice Academy\)](#)

**Know & Go: Babies in the Library, Serving our Youngest Users** (Amigos Library Services), August 28, 2023

With first smiles, rolling over, sitting up, first words, and grasping at a board book, a baby's first year is exciting and exhausting for parents and caregivers. Explore best practices to support new parents and caregivers in the library with a focus on new books and resources ideal for the first 24 months.

- [Details & course overview](#)
- [Course access request form \(Amigos Library Services\)](#)

**Questions?** Contact ICfL's CE Consultant [Annie Gaines](#).

## DIVERSITY IN ACTION

### Autism-Ready Libraries

In the United States, “one in thirty-six children is diagnosed with autism ... [and] autistic children often struggle with emergent literacy skills.” (*Autism-Ready Libraries*)

“Aimed to improve libraries’ capacity to provide early literacy programming to autistic children and their families,” the University of Washington’s Information School (iSchool) began working on the Autism-Ready Libraries project with support from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) in 2020.

The iSchool has just released the Autism-Ready Libraries Toolkit (ARLT), which includes early literacy programming and training materials to empower librarians to effectively serve autistic children and their families.

[More Info](#)



## OUTREACH

### Bookmobile Award and Upcoming Conference

The [Association of Bookmobile and Outreach Services](#) (ABOS) is an inclusive organization that celebrates all forms of library outreach. ABOS is accepting nominations for the [2023 ABOS Award Program](#), and Idaho libraries are encouraged to submit a nomination for such awards as: the Pattie Johnston Outreach Award for support staff, the Innovation in Outreach Programming Award, and the Preschool Outreach and School Services Inspirations Award. Anyone can make a nomination, and most ABOS awards do not require that the nominee be an ABOS member.

In addition, [ABOS’ annual conference](#) will be held October 9-11, 2023, in Hershey, Pennsylvania. If you’re an Idaho library staff member who has never been to this conference, the ICfL may be able to support your attendance with a [First-Time Conference Attendee Grant](#). Check out the grant and contact the ICfL’s Continuing Education Consultant, [Annie Gaines](#), with questions.

[More Info](#)

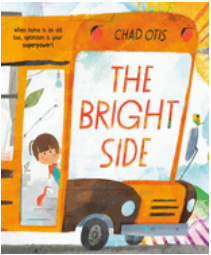




# BOOK LOOK

## Idaho Great Reads 2023 Selected Books

The Idaho Center for the Book and the Idaho Great Reads review committee have made their youth and adult book selections for the 2023 [Great Reads From Great Places](#) celebration!



**Youth selection:** *The Bright Side* by Chad Otis

Selection committee comments:

“This is a wonderful book that tells a very difficult story in a positive way.”

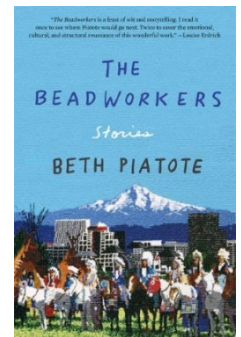
“I cannot support this book enough for its message and for the visuals themselves.”

**Adult selection:** *The Beadworkers: Stories* by Beth Piatote

Selection committee comments:

“It is engaging, approachable, and modern. It depicts the Native experience in Idaho (and WA) as contemporary.”

“Great selection of short stories focusing on contemporary situations and experiences. ... They are all connected through the idea of bead working and building a larger image out of smaller pieces.”



The books, authors and illustrators will be celebrated at the [Library of Congress' National Book Festival](#) on August 12, 2023, in Washington, D.C. The event includes live-streamed and recorded programs.

[Learn More](#)

**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. You can also fill out [this form](#) to submit comments or stories from your library.*

### Subscribe and Unsubscribe Information:

Visit Idaho Commission for Libraries and enter your email address to subscribe. If you would like to unsubscribe, simply click on the unsubscribe link in the bottom of the email.

### Contact Information

*The Scoop* is a service of the Idaho Commission for Libraries' Read to Me Program. To contribute or provide suggestions, contact [Staci](#), [Kristina](#), [Jeannie](#) or [Jennifer](#) at 208-334-2150 or 1-800-458-3271.



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