

Fun, inspiring and innovative ideas for library youth services



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Dates & Deadlines

- Girls Who Code Info Session will be held on Sept. 14
- Summer Reading Program
 Reports and Summer STEM
 summary reports are both due
 on Sept. 15
- Idaho Family Reading Week registration opens on Sept. 15
- School Libraries can apply for Bucks for Books by Sept. 24.
- Idaho Teen Reading
 Challenge starts in October –
 registration will open later
 this month!
- "Diversifying Your Collections" course – begins Oct. 26

Welcome

By Jennifer Redford

Storytime: did you know that the Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) receives a significant portion of its budget (about \$1.5 million annually) from funding through the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA)? In fact, most of the funding for our youth services programs, like My First Books, Outreach to Underserved Children, and Family Reading Week, are LSTA-funded. One of the requirements of the ICfL receiving this funding is that we have to report back to the Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS) on how we have spent the funds. That's why we ask you to fill out so many reports that have similar questions when you apply for our programs or attend our trainings. It is part of our requirement for receiving the funding. Every five years, the ICfL is evaluated to determine if the goals of the agency's five-year LSTA plan have been met and what the ICfL should **prioritize** for the next five years.

We would appreciate you taking 10 to 15 minutes to complete a survey to help us learn more about your experience with the ICfL's LSTA programs and activities. All responses are strictly anonymous. To take the survey, visit:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/IdahoLSTA. Thank you for your time and assistance in keeping our federal funding flowing to Idaho's libraries.

Speaking of storytime, this month the ICfL will launch a new tutorial on Niche Academy called **Storytime 101: Storytime Basics for Beginners**. There has been a LOT of turnover in youth services staff in Idaho over the past few years. This tutorial will help those who are new to storytime develop basic skills, like how to create

a storytime plan, how to select and perform books, and how to deliver early learning messages. We are in the final stages of reviewing and editing the tutorial and hope to launch it in a few weeks.



Library to Library

Summer STEM Around Idaho

We've been getting a LOT of great pictures with this year's Summer STEM reports. Here's a gallery of some of them – enjoy!



Bubbles at Ada Community Library - Star



Butterflies at Benewah Tri-Community



Take-Home Kits in Hagerman



Science Experiments in Grangeville



Science Lessons in Hamer



Homemade Snow in Midvale



Hover craft - Coeur d' Alene



Bubbles in Menan



Tweens & Teens

Idaho Teen Reading Challenge

The ICfL is launching a new program for teens at your public or school library. The Idaho Teen Reading Challenge is a way for you to encourage teens to read outside of their comfort zone. This year's categories are: Graphic Novels, a Book Recommended by a Friend, #OwnVoices, Free Choice, a Book that Keeps You Up at Night, a Classic, Memoir/Biography, and Re-Read. Here's how the program works:



- 1. The reading challenge will run from October April (seven months). Teens will be challenged to read one book from eight different categories (eight books total) during that time.
- 2. Later this month, you can register your library to participate in the program and request bookmarks and tracking forms.
- 3. Teens will receive a tracking form to keep track of their books, and a bookmark with the eight categories of books on it.
- 4. As they finish a book in each category, you will punch their bookmark with a special hole punch that we will send to you.
- 5. When a teen has completed the challenge, they can upload the titles they read using a form that is linked to a QR code on the tracking sheet (that way you don't have to keep track of who finished the program).
- 6. In May, we will contact you to let you know how many teens finished the program at your library.

We are still working out the budget for this new program and may be able to offer additional tools to support teens in their reading. Expect a big announcement on LibIdaho and on the Idaho Library Teen Services listserv when this program is ready to launch. You can check out the Idaho Teen Reading Challenge website for more details.

YALSA's Teens' Top Ten voting is open!

Teens' Top Ten is a "teen choice" list, where teens nominate and choose their favorite books of the previous year. Readers ages 12-18 vote online between Aug. 15 – Oct. 15. Encourage your teens to check out the 2021 Teens' Top Ten Nominees in time to cast their vote: www.ala.org/yalsa/teenstopten.

Applications for the next set of Teens' Top Ten book groups are also now open. Fifteen book groups will be selected for a two-year term to receive advance reading copies to review for publishers. Learn more about how your book group can apply for Teens' Top Ten: www.ala.org/yalsa/teenreading/teenstopten/apply.

Curious About Discord? Check Out Our Toolkit

Are you curious about Discord? Want to know more about starting your own Discord server and using it for library services and programs? Have no idea what Discord is? Check out our new "Getting Started with Discord" toolkit, authored by Jenny Liebig, and produced by the Idaho Commission for Libraries. The toolkit (attached) can also be found on the ICfL's Teen Programming Resources page, along with an Author Visit toolkit that was published last year.



Relaunch of AdLit.org

AdLit.org announced a relaunch of its highly successful website and newsletter, funded by a grant from the National Education Association (NEA). This resource contains everything related to adolescent literacy: books and booklists, authors, research and best practices, practical tips, and more for families and those working with struggling teen readers or teens whose primary language is not English. AdLit is a sister site with the highly respected Reading Rockets, Colorín Colorado, and LD Online. In addition to using the website/newsletter content in your library programming and collection development, please share this great resource with families and teachers in your community.



Kindergarten Ready corner

Five Ways You Can Help Ease Kids' Stress from the Past Year

By Jackie Mader, The Hechinger Report

"Parents, especially moms, have been stressed during the past year and that stress can trickle down to children, impacting behavior and health. And while policies and programs that lessen stressors can help, some child development experts say there are also simple things caregivers can do to mitigate some of the pandemic's impact on children, especially when it comes to isolation or trauma. Most kids will be fine even after facing stress, said Stephanie Jones, a professor of education at the Harvard Graduate School of Education and faculty co-director of the school's Saul Zaentz Early Education Initiative. But 'there are very subtle things that can maintain equilibrium that keeps children going."

Learn More

School zone

Bucks for Books Application Open Now!

Is there a series students have been asking about? A hot new title you've not worked into your budget (wait, what budget)? Apply for the Bucks for Books award and you may get the bucks you need for those books (get it? (3))! Idaho's publicly funded elementary



schools that have a library, a paid librarian, and have never received a Bucks for Books award are eligible to apply for up to \$3,000 to buy books for the school library's collection.

Get all the information and find the link to the application here, but don't wait too long – the application deadline is Sept. 24, 2021 at 11:59 p.m. MDT.

Also: Shopping for back-to-school books, birthdays, or maybe even doing a little early holiday shopping? Head over to your local Barnes & Noble or https://www.barnesandnoble.com/ the week of Sept. 4, 2021. A portion of your book purchases at any Barnes & Noble or online will support the Bucks for Books program and bring new books to Idaho's elementary school libraries. Just present this voucher if purchasing in person or use the code 12612594 when checking out online. Easy!

School Library Investigation – Decline or Evolution? (SLIDE)

SLIDE is an exploratory project that will uncover patterns in and causes of the alarming national decline in school librarian positions. Read this informative blog post from Joyce Valenza of Rutgers University summarizing the progress and findings so far of this important research project. This project, led by Debra E. Kachel of Antioch University and Keith Curry Lance of the RSL Research Group, will help us understand the factors behind the decline (it's not all about money) and the students that are most impacted by the loss of high-quality library programs.

Idaho Battle of the Books

It's a new season for IBOB and time to launch the 2021-2022 year! Visit https://idahobattleofthebooks.org/ to find the book lists for elementary and middle school/junior high teams, buy the question sets for a mere \$25, and register.

IBOB is an inclusive and inexpensive extracurricular program that students love. The program is flexible and can be as large or as small as each school chooses and can accommodate a few teams or dozens of teams. There are support materials, instructive videos on running battles, and contact information to ask questions available at the website.



See the Screen Through Someone Else's Eyes

All of us, including our students, are spending a lot more time at a screen, and for some that can be a big ask. Use the Screen Reader Simulator from Silktide to experience what a computers screen looks like to a student with a visual or reading disability. This Chrome extension can give the viewer an idea of what kids with colorblindness, dyslexia, myopia, and other low-vision conditions see when they look at a computer screen. The simulator is always free and a way to better understand and support some students' challenges.

Low Hanging Fruit

September means a new year of Low Hanging Fruit and it's also the month to celebrate freedom to read with Banned Books Week (Sept. 26 – Oct. 2, 2021).



the

Continue Reading



Nonfiction Book of the Month

September's Nonfiction Book of the Month is *Digging for Words: Jose Alberto Gutierrez and the Library He Built* by Angela Burke Kunkel.

Continue Reading

Upcoming Events

"Evaluating, Auditing, and Diversifying Your Collections" Course is Free

"In this course, you'll learn from an outstanding group of experts as they explore key concepts essential to cultivating and promoting inclusive and equitable collections. You'll conduct a diversity audit of your collections, and learn how to include diverse books, wider perspectives, #ownvoices, and how to be both more responsive to the community you serve and more reflective of the diversity of our world."

Review the detailed course description, live webinar speakers, and course features here.

Any library staff member working in an academic, public, school, tribal, or specialty library in Idaho is eligible to take this course through the ICfL for free, pending their library supervisor's approval.

Participating library staff shall understand and agree to meet the following course requirements:

- Attend <u>each</u> of the online, interactive live webinar sessions that will be streamed by Library Journal with real-time presenters and Q & A sessions on: Oct. 19, Oct. 26, and Nov. 2 from Noon-2 p.m. MDT.
- Complete the self-guided video lessons, homework assignments, and course reading in between each interactive online session.
- Complete a post-assessment of the course for the ICfL by Nov. 30.

The ICfL currently has 20 free seats available for this course for Idaho library staff members. This free course was made possible by our supporters at the Boise Unitarian Universalist Fellowship and their generous donation, which will pay the \$280 course fee for each person.

Planning to apply to the ICfL's Welcoming Libraries Grant in Oct./Nov. this fall? Taking this course will help to better prepare your library to apply for AND implement this grant. For example, the application questions: "What has your library done to prepare for this grant?" and "What EDI-related Continuing Education courses/webinars/ presentations has your staff participated in prior to applying to this grant?" will be assigned up to 20 points on the Welcoming Libraries Grant application.

Questions? Please contact Kristina Taylor. Registration opens today, until filled.

Learn More / Register

Idaho Family Reading Week Registration Opens Sept. 15



Registration for Idaho Family Reading Week begins this month!

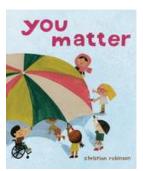
Visit the FRW page of our website and register your public or school library event (or perhaps a partnership event!), starting on Sept. 15. (You can find a preview copy of the registration questions on the website today.)

The ICfL has themed resources to send to 100 libraries across Idaho and registration will be open until filled on a first-come, first served basis.

The following newly published, hardcover books about hard work, perseverance, problem-solving, and making a difference will be given to each of the 100 participating libraries for our "Believe and Achieve" themed program this year:











In addition, any Idaho library can download, print, and make use of the following themed FRW resources:

"Believe and Achieve" student journals with related writing/drawing prompts – one for grades pre-K-3rd and one for grades 4th – 7th (preprinted journals will be available to request for the 100 registered libraries – art files will be on our website for independent library printing).

- A themed storytime outline.
- Recommended reading lists for parents or for library use to create checkout displays.
- Educator book guides for some themed books.
- Author talk info for *Pura's Cuentos* (Hint: she lives and works in Idaho!).
- FRW-themed artwork/graphics/flyers/posters to advertise your events.

Still have questions about Idaho Family Reading Week? Contact Kristina Taylor or join me on Sept. 8, 2021 from 11 a.m. – Noon MDT for a short overview of the program and an online Q & A session: Zoom Meeting link (add this link to your calendar).

Learn More / Register

Hey, the week of Nov. 8-14 is also Children's Book Week!? What a coincidence! Check out this national program and additional reading resources in the next article!

Children's Book Week is Nov. 8 – 14, 2021

Librarians, booksellers, organization leaders, and those with kids at home are invited to join the fun by pledging to participate in Children's Book Week.

You can participate in many ways, from sharing activities with kids in your care to hosting a virtual or in-person event or reading every day during the week. There is no one way or right way to join in the fun. All those who pledge to participate by **Oct. 1** will receive two copies of the official poster by Bryan Collier, as well as exclusive emails with free resources, participation ideas, and more.

This year's slogan, *Reading is a Superpower*, invites young people to take an active role in celebrating. Pledge now and read on for information about new fall resources and our Kids' Book Choice Awards. Fill out this form to pledge to participate.

Meet the New Community Education Specialist at IPTV

Trisha Mick is the new Community Education Specialist at Idaho Public Television. You may recognize her name from her time spent working at both Meridian and Boise libraries over the last decade. In this role, she will have the opportunity to help support libraries (both public and school) across Idaho by providing programs and educational materials for their customers/students.

Trisha is hosting an informational session this month via Zoom on **Wednesday, Sept. 8, at 2p.m. MDT.** And since she knows how busy all of you are, **she will randomly select an attendee to receive a swag bag full of goodies** to be mailed to you. Register in advance for this meeting. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Check it Out

ILA Scholarships and Awards

The Idaho Library Association is accepting nominations for statewide awards and applications for two scholarships.

- Nominations are now open for Public Library, Librarian, Paraprofessional, Trustee, School Librarian, Special Services, and Friend of the Year.
- Scholarships include the Gardner Hanks Scholarship (\$600) and the Idaho Library Association Scholarship (\$600).

If you would like to nominate a library or individual for one of the awards or apply for a scholarship, please visit the ILA website for more information. Links to the Idaho Library Awards and Scholarships are located under the Initiatives tab.

Please note the deadline for award nominations and scholarship applications is Friday, Sept. 3, 2021.

Don't hesitate to contact Committee Co-Chairs Hanwen Dong (hanwendong@uidaho.edu) or Lyn Drewien (lyn.drewien@haileypubliclibrary.org) with any questions.

The annual conference will be held virtually this year on Oct. 6 and 7.

Graphic Novel Bookmarks

Graphic novels are real reading for all ages. They have complex plots, characters, and conflicts combined with images that support development, learning, and reading comprehension. Download a set of bookmarks to off here.



print

Readers to Eaters

Readers to Eaters was founded in 2009 with a mission to promote food literacy from the ground up. We want children and families to have a better understanding of what and how we eat.

Too Small to Fail has partnered with Readers to Eaters to provide book discounts to their partners! Readers to Eaters is an independent publisher promoting food literacy to young children and families with a focus on diverse authors and illustrators. They publish books that give a fresh and fun perspective on what we eat and how we eat through good stories, beautiful writing, and a deep appreciation of food cultures.

Readers to Eaters now offers a 40% - 50% discount on all their books for Talking is Teaching partners! You can explore the Readers to Eaters 2021 book catalogue titled "Good Reads to Savor: Promoting Food Literacy Through Stories About Our Diverse Food Cultures" and if you are interested in placing an order, please email info@toosmall.org. Explore "Readers to Eaters" books by category.

Storytime permissions from publishers

Here are some publishers who have extended permissions for read-alouds of their titles in online storytime and other online library programs and school activities:

- **Penguin Random House** has extended its open license for online storytimes and read-aloud videos through Dec. 31, 2021. See details and instructions here.
- Librarian Janis O'Brien Comer maintains a Google Sheet with updated permissions information from approximately 30 publishers for at-a-glance convenience. While many of these have expired or will expire in September, this list indicates that HarperCollins and Peachtree have also extended permissions through Dec. 31 (confirmed by visits to their websites).
- It appears the School Library Journal publisher permissions list is no longer being updated, though it
 includes an undated note referencing publishers with extended dates. Librarians can always reach out
 directly to publishers to request permission to use materials for online storytimes and other
 streamed/recorded events.

Grant Opportunities

Changes to Welcoming Libraries Grant

Check out the adjustments being made to this grant this fall:

- The application window is being moved from Oct. 1 Oct. 30 to **Nov. 1 Nov. 30, 2021**. The implementation window will become: Jan.1 Apr. 30, 2022.
- We will increase the number of points on the application awarded for EDI-related continuing
 education of library staff members. This change is happening due to lessons learned from the first two
 years of the grant, which indicated that grantees can be more productive/impactful with their grant
 funds within the grant timeline IF some foundational EDI course/webinar/presentation education is
 offered to the staff before receiving the grant funds.
- We will increase the grant award amount this year from \$500 to **\$1,000 each**, therefore awarding 10 grants of \$1,000 each this fall. The increase in grant funds this year is made possible by our supporters at the Boise Unitarian Universalist Fellowship. Exciting news!

More Info

Pilcrow Foundation Book Grants for Rural Libraries

If you work in a rural public library, you may be eligible to apply for free books through the **Pilcrow Foundation Rural Public Library Grant program**.

The Pilcrow Foundation provides new, quality, hardcover children's books to rural public libraries across the United States. It provides a 2-to-1 match to rural public libraries that receive a grant through its Children's Book Project. The library or its sponsors/partners contribute \$200-\$400 and the Pilcrow Foundation matches

with \$400-\$800 for a total grant of \$600-\$1,200 for new children's books. To be considered for the current round, send your application by **Oct. 1, 2021.**

The Pilcrow Foundation provides a list of over 500 quality hardcover children's books from which Children's Book Project grant recipients can select books best suited for their community. The book list includes award-winning and star-reviewed titles from educational and literary organizations.

Learn More/Apply

Summer Reading News

Summer Reading Program Report due Sept. 15

As you wrap up your summer reading programs, remember that your summer reading report is due Sept. 15. You will access the report on our **Summer Reading webpage** under the **Evaluating Your Summer Reading Program** tab.

A copy of the report can be accessed on the ICfL website so that you have all the questions ahead of time. To make things easier, download a Word version of the preview questions, type responses into that document, then cut and paste your responses into the online report. This way you can work on it a little at a time or allow other staff members to add their data to it as a shared document.

All libraries that submit their summer reading report by September 15 will be entered into a drawing for a 2022 CSLP "Oceans of Possibilities" T-shirt!

If you did not offer a summer reading program this year, simply go to the report link above, fill out your contact information, and check "No" on the first question, "Did your library host a summer reading program this year?" You will be redirected to the end of the report.

The ICfL uses the information you submit in the following ways:

- To report to the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), as all the summer reading materials the ICfL provides to public libraries are funded with Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds.
- To share with our donors and partners, such as the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation and the Scottish Rite Masons of Idaho, how their contributions helped support your SRP.
- To evaluate programs and materials provided by the ICfL and help ensure we are meeting your needs.

If your library does not submit a report, you will receive a follow-up phone call in September. Please help us utilize our staff efficiently and submit your report on time.

News from the Collaborative Summer Library Program (CSLP)

Check out the latest CSLP Newsletter here.

See the 2022 Posters!

CSLP just posted a **poster reveal of the 2022 "Oceans of Possibilities" artwork** by Sophie Blackall, Caldecott Medalwinning illustrator of *Finding Winnie* and *Hello Lighthouse*. Take a look on Instagram or Twitter @cslpreads, or on Facebook.

Consider joining a CSLP committee:

Signups for 2022 are open until Oct. 8. While the duties vary, committee obligations generally run for one calendar year. All committee work is done virtually: either through email, or through phone or online meetings. Attending the CSLP Annual Meeting is not required. For more information, please visit: https://www.cslpreads.org/join-a-cslp-committee/.



Seeking program ideas for 2023, all ages

CSLP's annual programming manual is made up of submissions from public librarians nationwide. The **2023 theme is friendship and kindness**, and the slogan will be **"All Together Now."**

CSLP is also gathering reproducible/printable standalone resources, handouts, worksheets, recordings, and recommended books, websites, and apps for children, teens, and adults, and early literacy activities, tips, media, and book recommendations as well!

Submit your ideas or resources today: www.cslpreads.org/submit-a-programming-idea/.

CSLP wants to hear your feedback!

CSLP leadership is holding listening sessions in September. These listening sessions are open to all public library workers. No registration is required; just put the Zoom link on your calendar and log in at the specified time.

Provide input on CSLP's 2024 slogan and 2025 theme:

(This is a great chance to lobby for the slogans and themes you prefer.)

- Wednesday, Sept. 8, 1 p.m. MDT / Noon PDT Join here.
- Friday, Sept. 10, 9 am Mountain / 8:00 am Pacific Join here.
- Monday, September 13, 10 a.m. MDT / 9 a.m. PDT Join here.

Possible slogans for 2024 Adventure theme:

Adventure Begins at Your Library
La aventura comienza en tu biblioteca

Adventure - Check it Out! Aventura - ¡Chécala!

Dare to Explore Atrévete a explorar

Discover New Stories
Descubre nuevas historias

Explore the World at Your Library Explora el mundo en tu biblioteca

Go, Read, Explore! ¡Ve, lee, explora!

Let the Adventure Begin ¡Que la Aventura comience!

Libraries: Where Adventure Begins Bibliotecas: donde la Aventura comienza

Turn the Page to Adventure

Dale vuelta a la página para la Aventura

Possible themes for 2025:

Art

Nature

Food

Mysteries

Gardening

Career

History

Travel

Games

Provide general input at CSLP's next Membership Input Session:

CSLP will be seeking input on several topics, including the manual, website, and online store. Help CSLP continue to improve and customize its resources to better meet your needs.

Tuesday, Sept. 14, Noon MDT / 11 a.m. PDT Join here.

National Summer Learning Symposium: Save the Date

CSLP is planning a virtual symposium/conference that will take place on Thursday, Dec. 2.

What to expect: Four sessions plus a "welcome" and CSLP update from Luke Kralik.

Topics will include programming ideas, outreach/partnerships, and promotion/marketing. Keynote speaker to be announced. Stay tuned for more details, but please pencil in the date!

Featured:

ARPA Funds Granted to Nine Idaho Schools / Districts

Through a competitive grant process, nine Idaho schools and/or school districts were granted federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding, which was awarded by the Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL). In total, \$1.8 million was awarded by the ICfL to public, school, academic, and special libraries throughout Idaho. The ARPA funds will provide a significant boost to libraries as they help to keep students learning and adults earning.

The nine school libraries/districts that received the ARPA funds are: Hagerman Joint School District #233/Hagerman Elementary School, \$23,700; Idaho School for the Deaf and Blind, \$25,000; Jefferson Joint School District #251/Farnsworth Middle School Library, Rigby, \$5,500; Jefferson Joint School District #251/Roberts Elementary School, \$14,900; Madison School District #321/Madison Junior High School, Rexburg, \$10,000; Murtaugh School District #418/Murtaugh School District, \$15,000; Post Falls School District #273, \$50,000; Richfield School District #316/Richfield School Library, \$30,000; and the Soda Springs Joint School District #150/Tigert Middle School Library, \$5,700.

Many of the school libraries and districts plan to use the ARPA funding to purchase books and e-books, hotspots, computers, Chromebooks, and iPads.

In early August, State Librarian Stephanie Bailey-White made a trip from Boise to northern Idaho and was able to present the Post Falls School District and the University of Idaho Library with a "big check" to celebrate their ARPA award.

"I am so happy for the schools that are receiving ARPA funding. That funding will significantly impact those students and those communities for years to come," said State



Big book boost for Post Falls' students



In the Prairie View Elementary School library, Idaho State Librarian Stephanie Bailey-White (L) presents the grant award to Anna Wilson, Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Programs in Post Falls. Bailey-White traveled up from Boise. "I've been at a dozen libraries this week," she said.

Librarian Stephanie Bailey-White.

CE news you can use

Subscribe to the ICfL CE Digest

Have you heard of the CE Digest newsletter? You can get weekly updates on upcoming free CE opportunities for Idaho library workers by subscribing to the CE Digest newsletter here. For a preview of what the newsletter looks like or more information, visit this page.

Did you know the ICfL will cover the cost of online continuing education courses or webinars through InfoPeople, Library Juice Academy, and Amigos Library Services? It's true! If there's an online course or webinar from these providers you'd like to take, 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!

LSSC Elective Competencies: Youth Services (Library Juice Academy), Oct. 4 – Nov. 14

A six-week online course on youth services, designed to meet the elective requirement for the Library Support Staff Certification program. This course is designed to give students a broad overview of library services to youth and their caregivers in the library environment.

- Details & course overview
- Course access request form (Library Juice Academy)

Supercharging Your Storytimes (Library Juice Academy), Oct. 4 – 31

Using your knowledge of early literacy skills and practices, based on Every Child Ready to Read®, supercharge your storytimes through interactivity with children and their parents/caregivers, intentionality, being more purposeful in connecting storytime books and experiences to support early literacy behaviors, and assessment through self-reflection and peer-sharing. Hands-on practice in developing and delivering early literacy tips to adults in storytimes. Through self-assessment and an increased awareness, you will have the opportunity to energize your storytimes while becoming an advocate for early literacy in your library and the community.

- Details & course overview
- Course access request form (Library Juice Academy)

Using OBS Studio to Create Live and Recorded Youth Programs (InfoPeople), Oct. 12 - Nov. 1

If you have ever wanted to create professional-looking livestreams that are interactive and engaging, then OBS Studio might be the right tool for you. This three-week course will help you get comfortable using OBS Studio and even show examples of how libraries are using it for virtual youth programs. We will focus on the basics and specifically on how you can use it to create interactive live programs for youth.

Details & course overview

Course access request form (InfoPeople)

Apply for a FREE Virtual Conference Kit

The ICfL is making virtual conferencing equipment available for library staff in Idaho. Through a simple application, eligible Idaho libraries can receive a webcam and/or headset at no cost. Publicly funded public, school, academic, and special libraries are eligible. The virtual conference kits are for library staff to participate remotely in ICfL-sponsored continuing education activities, trainings, or other virtual learning and collaboration opportunities.

The virtual conference kits are available on a first-come, first-served basis to applicants who can show a need for them. The brief application may be accessed here. If approved, the virtual conference kit will be mailed to the applicant library.

Diversity in Action

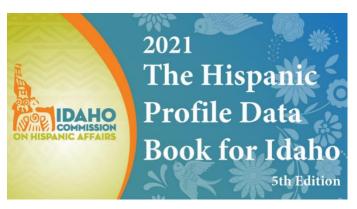
Hispanic Heritage Month is Sept. 15 – Oct. 15

The Idaho Commission on Hispanic Affairs (ICHA) will kick off Hispanic Heritage Month in Idaho on Sept. 15 with guest speakers and activities in downtown Boise. For those in the Treasure Valley, join the celebration at 10 a.m. in the Lincoln Auditorium of the Idaho State Capitol. In addition, ICHA will post daily recipe favorites by various Latinx community leaders throughout the month-long celebration, culminating in a one-of-a-kind 30-page recipe book. ICHA will share this info daily on their Facebook page, alongside other Hispanic Heritage Month events by groups across the state.

Did you know, "roughly 230,000 Hispanics live in Idaho...[making] up 13% of the state's population in 2019" and of this group, a large share is made up of children and young adults? ICHA has just released a new Hispanic Data Profile Book for Idaho and it is full of important information. Here's a teaser – check out the Preface, by Juan Alvarez, Chairman, Idaho Commission on Hispanic Affairs:

"The growth of Hispanics in Idaho continues to outpace any other population group in the state. Today, more than ever, understanding this trend and its impact on the state's economy, healthcare, education, government, and social services will be indispensable to decision-makers. This 5th edition of the Hispanic Profile provides trends and statistics on Idaho's Hispanic population. The Hispanic Profile mined more than 30 federal and state sources of data and coalesced them into one easy to read and understand report. For example, the Hispanic Profile provides data and trends on Hispanic population growth; economic well-being; and more recent trends in school enrollment. By sharing this rich data set with the general public, policy makers, K-20 institutions, businesses, and Non-Governmental Organizations, the Idaho Commission on Hispanic Affairs hopes to foster collaboration, align resources, and assure sound public policy to address the complex issues resulting from the growth of Hispanics in Idaho." - Juan Alvarez, Chairman, Idaho Commission on Hispanic Affairs

Get an idea of the challenges and successes members of the Latinx community in Idaho are met with every day by reading the 2021 Hispanic Data Profile Book for Idaho (5th Edition).



Other Hispanic Heritage Month Resources:

- Check out the Lee & Low Books/Re-Imagining Migration book list and resources.
- 2021 Latinx Voices Booklist (by Penguin)
- About National Hispanic Heritage Month.

Upcoming Hispanic Heritage Month events and celebrations in Idaho:

- Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration at Mckercher Park in Hailey on Sept. 21, including food, live music, and dance performances.
- Telemundo Boise's 10th Annual Fiestas Patrias at Lakeview Park in Nampa on Sept. 22, including live music and fireworks show.
- Consulado Movil, in collaboration with the Mexican consulate in Magic Valley, on Sept. 21-22.
- "Celebrating Our Community Diversity" celebration at Itty Bitt Farms in Carey on Sept. 25, including music, food, live performances, games, and guest speakers.
- Hispanic Youth Leadership Summit at College of Southern Idaho in Twin Falls on Oct. 3, sponsored by the Idaho Commission on Hispanic Affairs.

What's your library doing to celebrate Hispanic heritage? Send us a brief summary and photo or two and let us know!

STEAM

Start a Girls Who Code Club at Your Library

The Idaho Commission for Libraries is partnering with Girls Who Code (GWC) to provide free computer science resources to our community!

We encourage you to sign up to start a free Girls Who Code Club for 3rd-5th or 6th-12th graders. Learn more about the Clubs program here or join a webinar here. When you start a GWC Club:

- You'll get access to everything you need -- including training, comprehensive resources, and 120+ hours of easy-to-use and flexible coding curriculum.
- Clubs feature coding tutorials for all skill levels, inspiring women in tech, community-building activities to increase confidence, and project-based learning related to activism.
- Plus -- all genders are welcome in this girls-supportive environment.

Sign up to access the GWC Clubs curriculum and resources here on the Girls Who Code HQ platform and list the Idaho Commission for Libraries as your Community Partner on the application for exclusive benefits like extra support, swag, and more!

The ICfL is holding an informational session with our Girls Who Code representative on Tuesday, Sept. 14, at 3 p.m. MDT/2 p.m. PDT. Details and the Zoom link can be found here.

Cardboard Challenge Events and MakeDo Kits from STEM AC

The Cardboard Challenge was launched from the overwhelming global response to the short film, "Caine's Arcade." The Imagination Foundation was founded to find, foster, and fund creativity and entrepreneurship in children around the world to raise a new generation of innovators and problem solvers who have the tools they need to build the world they imagine.

Your Cardboard Challenge event could be in-person or virtual - where students/kids are playing, building, creating, and having fun at home or in smaller pods and sharing their cardboard creations online!

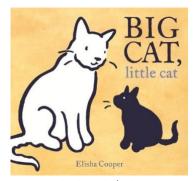


The Idaho STEM Action Center supports these events with a MakeDo Invent Kit or those who register their event with the national event site can apply for a kit from the Idaho STEM Action Center via their Community Grants portal.

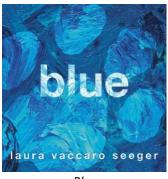
Book Look

Low Vision, High Contrast: Books for Kids who Need Contrasting Colors

This blog post from School Library Journal discusses the book needs of users who are blind or have low vision. It also includes a collection of high-contrast picture books that are more accessible to children with low vision. "These titles offer visual stimulation and allow the reader to more easily distinguish between the shapes, letters, and numbers in the illustrations." While this is an important element in board books for babies who are still developing their vision, it is also important to have a selection of picture books for older children with low vision. Here are some suggestions from the post:



Big Cat, Little Cat By Elisha Cooper



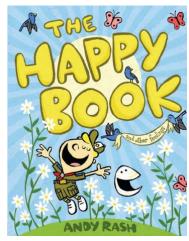
By Laura Vaccaro Seeger



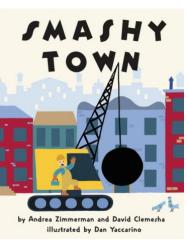
Boo!
By Ben Newman



Don't Worry, Little Crab By Chris Haughton



The Happy Book
By Andy Rash



Smashy Town
By Andrea Zimmerman &
David Clemsha



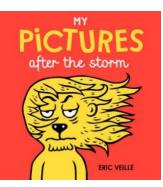
We Are All Me By Jordan Crane



*Mine!*By Jeff Mack



Hic By Anushka Ravishankar



My Pictures After the Storm
By Eric Veille



Stack the Cats
By Susie Ghahremani

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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