

rediscover reading



Idaho Falls Public Library

## Adult and Young Adult Services January 2024

### Adult & YA Programs

#### Program attendance from December 25, 2023, to January 26, 2024:

**Book/Card Making Classes:** 1 event, 29 people total

*A volunteer-led program where bookmaking and pop-up techniques are taught; materials provided by IFPL. Minimal IFPL staff involvement.*

**Chapter 2 Book Club:** 1 event, 8 people total, title: *The Warmth of Other Suns* by Isabel Wilkerson

*A book club moderated by an IFPL staff member using the Book Club in a Bag collection. Moderate IFPL staff involvement.*

**Chess Club Wednesdays:** 5 events, 26 people total

*A patron-led program that aims to teach people the basics of chess and inspire friendly competition. No IFPL staff involvement.*

**Chess Club Saturdays:** 4 events, 31 people total

*A patron-led program that aims to teach people the basics of chess and inspire friendly competition. No IFPL staff involvement.*

**Crazy Crafters:** 3 events, 52 people total

*A patron-led program where patrons can bring their current projects and socialize. No IFPL staff involvement.*

**D&D Days (Dungeons & Dragons):** 4 events, 31 people total

*A patron-led program where patrons are able to gather and play through a session of Dungeons & Dragons. No IFPL staff involvement.*

**Extreme Book Nerd Kickoff:** 1 event, 225 people total

*Patrons get a sneak peek of the Extreme Book Nerd categories, sign up for the program, enjoy refreshments, and converse with fellow book nerds. Heavy IFPL staff involvement.*

**Family Game Night:** 4 events, 43 people total <--- New program!  
*Families and friends are encouraged to use our space and available games or puzzles for bonding. Minimal IFPL staff involvement.*

**Great Book Giveaway:** 1 month, 75 entries total, sets given away: Historical Kings and Queens; Popular Fiction  
*Every time a patron checks out a book from the 3rd Floor, they can ask for a ticket to put into one of two book giveaways, created from donations.. The tickets are counted at the end of the month and a winner for each set is drawn. Medium staff involvement, as staff put together the sets and curate the tickets.*

**Knit Together:** 5 events, 36 people total  
*A patron-led program where patrons can bring their current projects and socialize. No IFPL staff involvement.*

**Literary Society:** 1 event, 14 people total <--- New program!  
*Run by IFPL staff, this monthly events invites patrons to come discuss their favorite books in a specific topic or genre. Heavy IFPL staff involvement.*

**Money Matters:** 1 events, 2 people total  
*An educational series on banking, mortgage, credit, insurance, etc. Minimal IFPL staff involvement.*

**Winter Reading – Adults:** 416 adults signed up since November 27, 2023  
*This program is structured so participants read books in different categories, in addition to learning more about their Library. Heavy IFPL staff involvement in the creation of categories, but minimal after the program is started.*

**Winter Reading – Teens:** 45 teens signed up since November 27, 2023  
*This program is structured so participants read books in different categories, in addition to learning more about their Library. Heavy IFPL staff involvement in the creation of categories, but minimal after the program is started.*

**Write Over Here:** 4 events, 24 people total  
*Patrons are encouraged to work on and share their current writing projects. An IFPL staff member leads discussions on topics pertaining to plot, characters, etc. Moderate IFPL staff involvement*

**Write Over Here for Teens:** 4 events, 20 people total  
*Patrons are encouraged to work on and share their current writing projects. An IFPL staff member leads discussions on topics pertaining to plot, characters, etc. Geared towards those in 7-12 grades. Moderate IFPL staff involvement*

**Write Over Here – Teen Writing Camp:** 5 events, 29 people total  
*Teens in grades 7-12 join an IFPL staff member to discuss the fine art of writing.  
Heavy IFPL staff involvement.*

**Tours/Outreach:**

AH Bush Elementary Family Night with United Way: 150 people

Total events: 44; total people: 795

**Extreme Book Nerd signups (total since January 3):**

Adult Extreme Book Nerd: 281 registered; 1 completed (.0035%)

Teen Extreme Book Nerd: 35 registered, 0 completed (0%)

Book Nerd Your Way (adult): 212 registered, 0 completed (0%)

Book Nerd Your Way (teen): 22 registered, 0 completed (0%)

Total registered: 550; total completed: 1 (.0018%)

## Pictures from Book Nerd Kickoff



## **Upcoming programs**

Blind Date with a Book, February 1-29

Patrons can check out a mystery book and enter to win one of four gift cards from fabulous downtown businesses

Book/Card Making Classes, Wednesdays, 6:30pm

February 21: Celtic star book

March 20: Traditional Japanese styles – flutter and stab

Chapter 2 Book Club, Tuesdays, 7pm

February: *The Book of Lost Names* by Kristin Harmel

Family Game Night, Thursdays, 6:30pm

Families gather & use our incredible array of board games & puzzles

Literary Society, Thursdays, 7pm (NEW PROGRAM!)

Patrons will convene to talk about their favorite books in a specific genre or category

February 15: High Fantasy, led by Melissa

March 21: Relationship Fiction, led by Lisha

March Madness, March 4-30

2nd/3rd Floor staff have picked 16 books to go head-to-head in a bracket voted on by patrons

Money Matters, Wednesdays, 6:30pm

February 21: Budgeting, with Brock Pence, ICCU

March 13: Home insurance, with Brenden Craft, American Family Insurance

Teen Spring Break Writing Camp

Teens will participate in a camp focused on novel-length writing

March 18-22, 1-4pm

Write Over Here, Tuesdays, 7pm

Write Over Here: Cabin Fever, February 24, 10am-6pm

*This program is to encourage writers to get out and join other writers for a day full of camaraderie, snacks, and encouragement.*

Write Over Here for Teens, Thursdays, 4:30pm

### Never Too Late - A Creative Aging Program, March 11-April 29:

IFPL is working with The Art Museum of Idaho to provide artist-led workshops geared towards older learners. The workshops will be centered on basic drawing and art history. Emily Wunderlich will be our artist/teacher. Funded by a grant from the Idaho Commission for Libraries and Idaho Commission on the Arts; one of five locations in Idaho selected.

### New programs in the works for 2024

April: National Library Week (celebrated all month, maybe – still in development)

One Shot D&D: Patrons will learn the basic of Dungeons & Dragons with short campaigns

## Outreach

### Events

January 18, 2024, AH Bush Elementary Family Night with United Way

A staff member talked with elementary families about getting a library card and services offered, such as Libby, Rosetta Stone, and Learning Express. Other local organizations who attended included Eastern Idaho Public Health, GIFT, Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Center, Museum of Idaho, and SPARC from CYA (Community Youth in Action).



### Meetings

January 24, 2024, with FamilySearch Center

Members of the FamilySearch Center visited to library to view things we offer like the microfilm, and also to get a sense of space for an upcoming program they'll be teaching in late spring/early summer.

## Staff

### Staffing

New staff members were hired to increase staffing on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor. The new staff are Rebecca Dice, Kira Epperson, and Samatha (Sami) Viehweg. They are settling in and performing well.

One staff member (not the new hires) was placed on a work improvement program.

### Meetings

A department meeting was held on January 16. The new staff were officially introduced, and topics covered: cleaning bathrooms, how to properly use Microsoft Teams, PDFs, passwords to online resources and the microfilm machine, and upcoming programs.

### Professional development included:

*The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People: 30th Anniversary Edition* by Stephen R. Covey, with Sean Covey

LITT chat provided by ICfL – topic: marketing

LiLL webinars provided by ICfL

Lunch & Learn by the City of Idaho Falls – covered ARCGIS systems and passwords

Beth is enrolled in Director 101, provided by ICfL. This yearlong course covers the basics of directorship in Idaho and will be very helpful in her current roll. There are two meetings a month, and in January, the topics of eRate and current bills at the Idaho Legislature were covered.

The three new staff members spend about an hour a day watching webinars to learn things about Horizon, databases the library provides, and customer service skills.

## Miscellaneous

### Our library is awesome! – Recent stories from staff members

The response from patrons to our Extreme Book Nerd Kickoff and new categories has been very positive. Many people enjoyed gathering at the library for the kickoff. Kudos to the staff who helped make it a fun and rewarding event! -- Beth



From Dave Johnson, patron, reported by Liza on 1/3/2024:

You know, walking into this building makes me feel so welcomed. The fish pond, the plants and the garden, but most of all, the librarians. This is a wonderful place to be. Thank you for all you do.

Reported by Beth, on 1/16/2024

On the very last day of our Winter Teen Writing Camp, Melissa had finished up, and the kids just sat there. She told them that they were done and they could go, but one of the kids say, "But we don't want to go." I take this as proof of how awesome this program is and how Melissa is rocking it.

From Brooke Anderson, United Way, reported by Beth on 1/24/2023:

Community Partners,

I wanted to reach out and offer a huge THANK YOU for being a part of our first Mobile Family Resource Center night. This event would not have been possible without your participation, and we are so grateful that you made the trip to Bush Elementary to share your services with families. We will continue to have these events throughout our 7-County area, and hope you will be open to attending future events, should your service areas align with the counties we are travelling to. We do plan on having events here in Bonneville County in May and late August or Early September.

Thank you again for your support and partnership!

Best,

Brooke Andersen

Reported by Beth on 1/26/2024

I was chatting with a staff member at Kiosk when a patron stopped by and told us that this was the "bestest library with the bestest staff." He told us that we had gotten a book for him that he requested, just because he requested it, and he was amazed by that. Another time, we were able to interlibrary loan a book for him, and he was just so happy over that.