

Community Engagement Adult, Teen, and Makerspace Programs Report for April 2026

Information gathered from March 2 – April 25, 2026

Adult & Teen Programs

- **4-H Club:** 2 events, 19 people
- **Author Visit:** 2 events, 5 people, authors: MJ Candland and David Bunnell
- **Book Madness:** Runs March 1-31, 158 entries
- **Booked at Noon Book Club:** 2 events, 14 people
- **Caregiver Connections:** 2 events, 37 people
- **Chapter 2 Book Club:** 2 events, 21 people
- **Chess Club Wednesdays:** 8 events, 23 people
- **Chess Club Saturdays:** 8 events, 58 people
- **Conversaciones:** 8 events, 33 people
- **Crazy Crafters:** 8 events, 120 people
- **Cuéntame un libro:** 2 event, 9 people
- **D&D Days (Dungeons & Dragons):** 8 events, 89 people
- **Game Night:** 8 events, 110 people
- **Journal Jam:** 2 events, 10 people
- **Let's Talk About It:** 1 event, 10 people
- **Literary Luck:** 2 months, 107 entries
- **LybraryWyrms:** 8 events, 58 people
- **Mental Wellness Series with NAMI:** 2 events, 25 people
- **Narcan:** 1 event, 3 people
- **Nerd Gym:** 7 events, 25 people
- **Paper Arts:** 2 events, 51 people
- **Recycle Your eWaste:** 1 event, 100 people
- **Write Over Here:** 8 events, 85 people
- **Write Over Here for Teens:** 7 events, 25 people
- **Write Over Here – Teen Writing Camp:** 4 events, 46 people
- **Special programs/events**
 - **American Red Cross Blood Drive:** 1 event, 40 people
 - **Authorpalooza:** 1 event, 104 people
 - **Book Blitz:** 1 event, 6 people
 - **Cabin Fever:** 2 events, 13 people
 - **Claiming the Middle Ground:** 2 events, 5 people
 - **Foster Grandparents (with AmeriCorps Seniors and United Way):** 3 events, 3 people

Total events: 118; **total people:** 1,437

Report from INL about amount of eWaste collected at our events

Event date	Total (lbs)	Number of households or vehicles
22-Feb-25	9,317	160
22-Mar-25	5,693	113
19-Apr-25	2,394	67
17-May-25	5,625	102
15-Nov-25	3,083	47
24-Jan-26	2,719	79
21-Feb-26	7,841	136
31-Mar-26	4,947	86
IFPL-FY25	23,029	442
IFPL-FY26	18,590	348
IFPL-UpToDate	41,619	790

Upcoming special events and programs

- **Water Festival Poems:** April 27-May 4; in conjunction with Idaho Department of Environmental quality. Patrons can view poems written by local 5th and 6th graders for this yearly event.
- **Foster Care display:** May 1-30, 1st Floor; in conjunction with Fostering Idaho. May is Foster Care month. Patrons can check out books to learn more about fostering.
- **National Tennis Month display:** May 1-30, 2nd Floor; in conjunction with Idaho Tennis Association. Patrons can check out books to improve their game or learn about the great players.
- **A Day with Our Founding Fathers:** May 2, 10:30am-1:30pm; in conjunction with the Daughters of the American Revolution, patrons can sign a copy of the Declaration of Independence, hear a presentation about the Declaration, and more.
- **Fostering FAQs:** May 9, 10:30am-12pm; in conjunction with Fostering Idaho, patrons can have all their questions answered about being foster parents.
- **Mental Health First Aid:** May 18 and 19, 10am-2pm; in conjunction with Eastern Idaho Public Health. Patrons can learn about mental health.
- **Summer Reading:** June 1 – August 8
- **Blood Drive:** June 9, 10am-3pm; in conjunction with the American Red Cross, patrons can donate blood.
- **Miss Idaho Community Service Initiative Poster Session:** June 11, 10am-1pm; in conjunction with the Miss Idaho program. Patrons can see what the contestants are doing for their communities.



Figure 1 / April 24 - Caregiver Connections



Figure 2 / April 24 - Caregiver Connections



Figure 3 / April 26 - Authorpalooza



Figure 4 / LybraryWyrms characters, drawn by patron Masen

Adult & Teen Reading Programs

Extreme Book Nerd signups (total since January 6):

- Adult Extreme Book Nerd: 320 registered; 4 completed (1%)
- Teen Extreme Book Nerd: 39 registered, 0 completed (1%)
- Book Nerd Your Way (adult): 425 registered, 19 completed (4%)
- Book Nerd Your Way (teen): 69 registered, 4 completed (6%)
- Total registered: 853; total completed: 27 (3%)

Turn the Page Reading Program for Teens (total since January 26):

- Registered: 12; Prizes earned: 12

Makerspace Programs

Programs

- **Brickfast Club:** 7 events, 59 people
- **Coding for Kids:** 30 events, 48 people
- **Tech for Teens:** 22 events, 13 people
- **Teen INC (Innovate & Create):** 7 events, 18 people

Total events: 66; **total people:** 138

Changes to programs

- Teen INC will be on hiatus for a few weeks as I reevaluate the time to hold it. Currently it's on Fridays at 11am, as I was hoping to attract the kids who didn't have to attend Intervention Fridays. However, that hasn't worked as I had hope, and the attendance numbers have been spotty.



Figure 5 / March 13 - Teen INC, Hobbit Doors

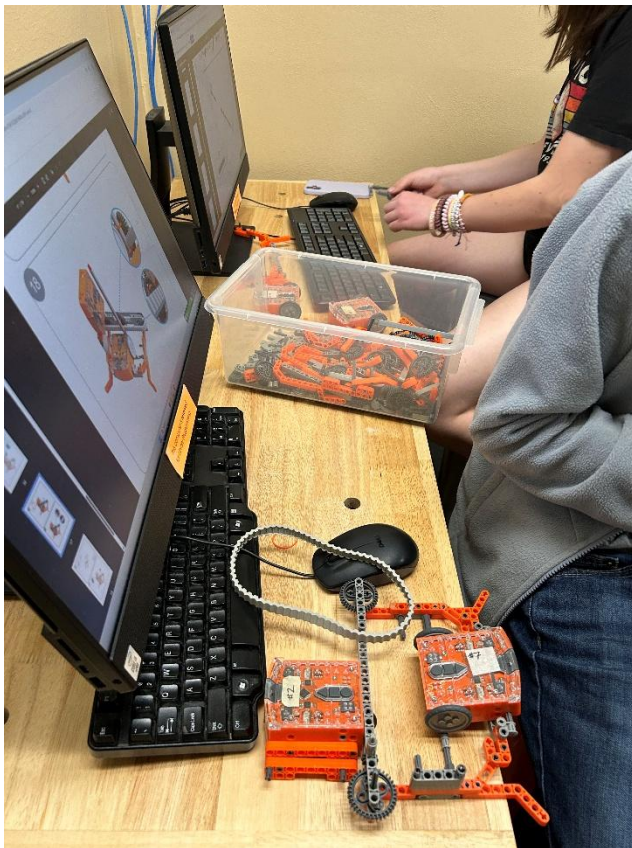


Figure 6 / March 20 - Teen INC, Robot Printers

Community Engagement and Outreach

Events

- **MorningStar Assisted Living:** 6 people
 - I revisited the site to further assist patrons in signing up for library cards and navigating Libby.
- **Dora Erickson Family Reading Night:** 150 people
 - I told people about the awesomeness of the library, passed out bookmarks and books, and touted the importance of Summer Reading. The books came from ICfL and the United Way.
- **Teton Healthcare of Cascadia:** 7 people
 - I revisited the site to further assist patrons in signing up for library cards and navigating Libby.
- **Community Council of Idaho event:** 100 people
 - Enrique and I visited the Migrant Head Start Center with other area agencies and talked to Head Start families about the importance of library cards and what services the library has to offer. About 95% of the conversations happened in Spanish, so it was good that Enrique was able to attend. Kids were able to take home a book – many of them were able to choose bilingual texts. The books came from ICfL and the United Way.

Total events: 4; Total people: 263

Meetings

- **Radon detection kits:** Met with staff from Idaho Department of Health and Welfare to discuss the possibility of the library checking out radon detection kits to patrons. They were able to answer my questions, and I'm now in the process of creating the check-out process for those kits.
- **Idaho Tennis Association:** Met with Melanie Daw from this association to discuss a library display about tennis.
- **Creative Aging:** Met with several people (Idaho Commission for Libraries, The Art Museum of Eastern Idaho, Alzheimer's Association Greater Idaho Chapter) to work on a grant from ICfL for this program that is geared towards art education for patrons 55 and better. The grant was submitted, and I'm still waiting to hear if we received it.
- **Daughters of the America Revolution:** Met with representatives from this group to plan future programs, including the event on May 2 and one in June.
- **Early Learning Collaborative:** Met with other agencies led by the United Way to discuss what is available for parent and caregiver education and assistance.

- **Bonneville Interagency Council:** Met with other agencies to learn what is going on in Bonneville County. The focus for April's meeting was aging adults, so it was nice to hear what is going on and making connections as I'm planning some programs geared towards this population.
- **Miss Idaho pageant:** Met with the coordinators of the Miss Idaho pageant to plan an event at the library where the contestants could showcase their Community Service Initiatives.
- **Compass Academy mural:** For several months, I met with three Compass Academy students – Adele, Eliza, and Sophia – who wanted to paint a mural at the library for their senior project. I spent several Sundays in February and March at the library so they could work on their mural.
- **Kiwanis and Rotary:** I attended the majority of meetings, as my scheduled allowed.

Upcoming

- April 29, 8am-3:15pm: Taylorview Middle School presentations
 - I'll be talking with 8th Graders about the library, programs, and resources.
- May 6, 11:30am: Newcomers Club
 - I'll be presenting about the library, programs, and books.
- May 16, 10am-1pm: Veteran Services Fair with Trio
 - I'll have a booth at this event and talk to people about getting library cards and exploring our great resources and collections.



Figure 7 / April 3 - Dora Erickson Family Reading Night



Seniors Paint New Library Mural

If you've visited the Idaho Falls Public Library recently, you might have spotted this beautiful new mural in the children's section. It was painted by three of our seniors at **Compass Academy: Adele, Eliza, and Sophia!** We're grateful they took the time to use their skills to beautify our community. 🌈

Figure 8 / Article about the Compass Academy students' mural in D91 Updates newsletter



Figure 9 / April 24 - Community Council of Idaho Migrant Head Start event