

Library Director's Report

December 2011

2011 Staff Service Awards

Congratulations and recognition were given to the following staff members for their years of service with Boise City and Boise Public Library:

Five Years: Dennis Allen, Arthur Bosely, Jessica Delight, Lisa Egan, Gueneth Johnson, Lynn Leggate, Fiona May, Kelly Rafferty, Cynthia Sandoval, and Rebecca Stroebel

Ten Years: Shanna Decker, Joanne Hinkel, Jim Jatkevicius, Marcia LeFevre, Aaron Nuttal, and Jody Vestal

Fifteen Years: Laura Weimer

Twenty Years: Cheryl Bussert

Friends of the Boise Public Library Funding

Many thanks to the Friends of the Library for funding \$126,688 for library programs and equipment for Fiscal Year 2012. Included in this year's request are: summer reading programs, furniture for a teen area, a teen media center at Collister, the adult nonfiction browsing experiment furniture, author visits, Get Loud at the Library events, and the Idaho Family Reading Week programs. A complete list of projects funded is included in the board meeting packet under miscellaneous documents. Thank you to our great Friends of the Library!

Fiscal Year 2011 Budget

The Library ended the Fiscal Year 2011 budget with an adjusted net tax support savings of \$555,939. Savings came primarily from reduced open access payment costs, utility cost savings, and one-time salary savings. I'll review the year-end budget report with the Library Board of Trustees at the December meeting.

Legislative Reception

Thanks to Becca Stroebel for coordinating this year's library legislative reception. Representative Phyllis King was the only legislator attending, prompting us to rethink this activity. Since the Idaho Library Association sponsors a legislative event in January, we may choose to rely on that venue to communicate library services to the Boise contingent.

Internet Filtering Legislation

The Idaho Statesman reported on the upcoming public library Internet legislation implementation on November 26 and published an editorial opinion on November 29 calling for the legislature to revisit the legislation. Library administration will begin reviewing the requirements of the legislation this month. Implementation is scheduled to begin in October 2012. Administration will keep you posted on the steps the Library will be required to take to implement, and on any upcoming legislation that might address (or readdress) the issue.

Foundation Activity

During the November meeting, the Foundation Board of Directors discussed the 2011 Community Survey and identified target audiences and key services that the Library should consider "messaging." The target audiences included working adults, senior citizens, teenagers, and families. Foundation Directors also liked the concept of marketing e-services more extensively and high-touch customer service. The Foundation will meet again in December to continue the conversation. A full report will be made available to Trustees when the Directors finish the analysis.

American Association of University Women

I had the privilege of speaking before the Boise Chapter of the AAUW on November 15. The topic was "Libraries of the Future." I have also been leading staff discussions on the same topic in November and will continue to host various sessions with staff during the winter. Joanne Hinkel and I will be arranging several community group presentations throughout the year to talk about the Library and its services. If you have a group you would like us to speak to, please let me know.

ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT:

Partnering with TriCa

The Library is again partnering with TriCa (Treasure Valley Institute for Children's Arts) to bring monthly programs to all the Boise Public Library sites. This very popular series started in September 2011 and continues through May 2012. The November program instructed children how to play instruments for a jug band. The next program for the Main Library is Sunday, December 11 at 1:00 p.m. and children will be listening to the music and learning the dances of the 80's.

November Activities at Collister

The Library! at Collister hosted the Boise Rock School Teen Takeover! on November 4. On the evening of November 10, staff presented an adult event on Downloading eBooks: an Intro to eReaders. On Saturday, November 12, a Re-Art program on making Hillbilly Jug Band music took place that was very well attended. Finally, as part of Family Read Week, Family Game night took place on Tuesday, November 15 with old-fashioned board and card games for parents and children of all ages. Snacks were provided by Salt Tears Coffeehouse & Noshery.