FISCAL YEAR 2018 STATISTICAL DATA
Boise Public Library ended the fiscal year with record-setting statistics in several categories.

- Circulation increased nearly 1% over last year (2.7 million total), with the Library at Bown Crossing increasing the Library’s overall circulation.
- The Library provided nearly 10,000 programs for youth, adults, and community organizations and boasted a record setting attendance of 140,000, a 17% increase over last year.
- Customer visits reached 1.5 million, an 8% increase of Fiscal Year 2017.
- Reference transactions increased 4% over last year.

Boise Public set new statistical records in circulation, customer visits, and program attendance. Well done staff. This coming year, the Leadership Circle will be working on ways to increase circulation even more. During the last quarter, some circulation statistics dropped and we are investigating possible reasons for the decline.

Related to statistical data, I have included an infographic from the American Library Association/Public Library Association study, From Awareness to Funding, depicting voter perceptions and support for public libraries in 2018. I will be commenting on this report during the Library Board of Trustees meeting.

LIBRARY CAMPUS PROJECT
This month the traffic study, parking discussions, The Cabin location options, and review of interior assignable spaces have continued. The schematic and design development contract should be presented to the City Council in late November. The project team hopes to present site options for The Cabin in that same time frame.

IN-SERVICE DAY HIGHLIGHTS
Thank you, Trustees, for giving library staff an opportunity to meet on October 8 for the annual in-service day training event. The entire staff attended sessions regarding the Connect Boise performance management system from Human Resources representatives and a Library Campus in-depth project update from project coordinator Shawn Wilson. Other sessions included using language that immigrants might not understand, community engagement updates, readers' advisory tips, storytelling tips, and an open house showcasing many of the Boise Public's partners. Many thanks to the staff “in-service” team for another excellent training event.

The team hopes to have an evaluation summary for the Board at the November meeting. I have included my presentation to the staff in the Board packet in the miscellaneous document section. I will be commenting on this presentation during the Board meeting.
MOUNTAIN PLAINS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE
Acquisitions and Technical Services Manager Shanna Decker and I attended the annual conference in Wichita, Kansas October 23-28. Decker attended a preconference on intellectual freedom while I attended a preconference on user experience design. We also attended sessions on leadership, innovative program ideas, the future of libraries, managing stress in libraries, Good Reads, TedX in libraries, and a variety of excellent programs. We hope to implement some of the ideas we learned at the conference and I would like to send other staff members to next year’s conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The conference provides an opportunity for Boise Public Library and staff to gain information from a broad section of the country including several of our peer libraries. While in Wichita, I also visited Moshe Safdie’s Exploration Place museum and Decker and I toured the new main Wichita Public Library. We will share some details with you at this month’s Board meeting.

Administration and Management Reports:

NEW SCHOOL-AGE STEAM PROGRAMS AT THE LIBRARY! AT COLE & USTICK
Staff at the Library! at Cole & Ustich have been experimenting with offering STEAM-themed (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) programming for school-age kids and their caregivers every Wednesday from 4:00-5:30 p.m. Activities have ranged from leaf mobiles, exploring biology, and the change in seasons to slime, robots, and non-Newtonian fluids!

MORLEY NELSON COMMUNITY CENTER STORY TIMES
The Library! at Cole & Ustich staff have been visiting the Morley Nelson Community Center (run by City of Boise Parks & Recreation) to offer weekly story times, crafts, and STEAM-themed activities. They have also begun a lending library of donated materials for children to “check-out” and enjoy during the week.

ZOO PASS PROGRAM
For the months of September through December, the Library is partnering with Zoo Boise to give away, via drawing, three zoo passes (good for four people) at each location per week. This offers an opportunity for customers to experience another fabulous resource in the city. All locations have experienced a high rate of participation. The Library! at Cole & Ustich has received two thank you notes from families who were drawn!

INDIE AUTHOR DAY AT BOISE PUBLIC LIBRARY
On October 13, Boise Public Library joined libraries across the country to celebrate the third annual Indie Author Day. More than 20 guests were hosted, including self-published authors, traditionally-published authors, and the managing editor of a local publishing company. Guests sold their books, read selections from their writing, and shared their expertise via panel discussions and workshops. The audience voted for favorites during the multi-author reading. Many noted it was a difficult choice! Merilee Marsh, president of the Idaho Writers Guild, served as moderator.
INDIGENOUS IDAHO, GLOBAL VILLAGE BOISE SERIES
The Library! at Hillcrest hosted Indigenous Idaho on October 20 as part of the Global Village Boise series. The event was attended by 264 people of all ages. It began with a welcome song and drums by Ernest Wahtomy and a prayer by Larry Murillo. Rose Ann Abrahamson discussed the history of the Boise native people and told stories throughout the afternoon. Bruce Dowlin gave a demonstration on the uses of buffalo for Native Americans. Melanie Fillmore discussed the ongoing challenges for indigenous people in a talk on “Urban Indians.” Everyone then enjoyed tasting a traditional recipe for fry bread, which was prepared by local Gaston’s Bakery. Miss Shoshone-Bannock, Sequoia Pahvitze, and Larry Murillo gave a presentation on the use of traditional herbs for medicinal purposes. The afternoon concluded with a traditional dance instructed by Rose Ann Abrahamson along with drumming by Ron Sams.