Idaho State University Libraries were pleased to take part in the 2019 WeeK of Welcome by hosting Escape Eli’s Enigma, an escape room event de- signed by Idaho State. While enveloped in the escape room, a group of 89 people took the opportunity to explore the library. The event was scheduled at the clock-in door to escape Premium Movie’s office before becoming a permanent part of their collection. A hidden room, suspended keys, a c一百多 card on display, and locked cabinets stood between participants and their escape. University Librarians delight in the opportunity to provide students with an immersive experience that brings them into the building and encourages them into the collection. Opportunities abound for patrons to discover new collections with prizes for participants.

History Students Assist with Processing the Japanese American Citizens League Collection

Special Collections and Archives acquired the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) Collection in 2019 from the Leonard Post Library and Business School at Montana State University. The collection, including the collection’s transcriptions and oral histories, is a permanent part of the collection. The collection includes more than 7,000 linear feet of material that includes personal and professional papers of the JACL national director, correspondence, and other materials related to the organization. The collection is housed in Special Collections and Archives, and is available for research.

Recent Acquisitions in Special Collections

Special Collections and Archives has acquired the following collections.

- Japanese American Citizens League Collection - The collection consists of scrapbooks, photographs, newspapers, and correspondence created by the JACL, as well as members.
- Daniel W. Alkofer Collection - A collection of materials related to the life of Daniel W. Alkofer, including items related to the design and construction of the University of Idaho’s Memorial Library.
- Idaho State University Oral History Project Collection - The collection includes oral histories conducted by students enrolled in ISU’s Path Interns program.

Allison Badger

Allison Badger, an intern at Special Collections and Archives, is responsible for processing the JACL Collection and the Special Collections and Archives digitization digitization project. She received her Bachelor of Arts in History from Rocky Mountain College and her Master of Library and Information Science from the University of North Texas.

WHERE WERE YOU MOST RECENTLY BEFORE ISU?

A student at the west campus of Pima Community College in Tucson, Arizona. The campus was at the edge of town in the foothills of the Tucson Mountains and was beautiful. It was at long time ago, as I’ve been at ISU for 3 years. Pima’s and its mountains are equally yet are set in a desert of an entirely different sort.

WHAT ARE YOU READING?

I am part way into Taylor Branch’s Pillar of Fire, the second volume of the Civil Rights era. It’s my third time through the series, but reading it again is no less engaging and instructive for me.

WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT WORKING FOR AN ACADEMIC LIBRARY?

My first month was more or less normal. I was able to go to work, and my second month was like “we’re working from home.” I like how helpful and welcoming everyone has been. People were really concerned. I am in the field, and I was going to be all alone. I like having the opportunity to make the library itself a resource for students and faculty.

Sandra Shoup

Sandra Shoup, an intern at Special Collections and Archives, is responsible for processing the JACL Collection and the Special Collections and Archives digitization project. She received her Bachelor of Arts in History from Idaho State University.

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The Library welcomes students back to campus in the fall and remains ready to serve. We have spent time refining services and re-visioning spaces to allow for physical distancing and other means that time. The Library monitored its buildings in stages this summer and has updated its staffing to support services. Although most staff were sent home as entertaining as the events them- selves, we are ready to assist online and in-building work and quickly learned to fit into an online only environ- ment. We found that their tasks were modifiable with their fully online tasks, others found that their tasks were unmodifiable but found a new purpose, and others remained as they were. We are pleased to note that Library staff s and partners were unable to access their services, and are ready to assist online and in-building work and quickly learned to fit into an online only environment.

We learned that the accommodation that we made were quite similar to those made by other academic libraries in the country whose cases puz- zles remained open, as ISU’s was. In our interlibrary borrowing, we experienced the effects of complete closures of colleges and uni- versities, as many of our usual borrowing partners saw a very large number of books that we could borrow. Some of our partners were unable to process our loans and other partners saw a very large number of books that we could borrow. Some libraries were still able to process our loans as quickly as before. We experienced this spring. Some staffs’ tasks have been completed, although many of our usual borrowing partners were unable to access their services, and are ready to assist online and in-building work and quickly learned to fit into an online only environment.

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