Quotes

“Thank you Idaho Public TV for keeping everyone connected across the state. Your work is a powerful resource to maintain a sense of connection and community during these difficult times. I personally appreciate you helping us learn in “real-time” how things are going in Idaho.” – Caroline

“Outdoor Idaho is comfort food for the soul! ❤️” – Dave

IdahoPTV was recently presented with a gold Telly award for Idaho Experience “Out of the Shadows,” in the General-Cultural category. Congratulations Production team!

Democracy in Action Matching Gift Fund

DOUBLE YOUR GIFT, DOUBLE YOUR IMPACT

With the 2020 Democracy in Action Matching Gift Fund!

As Idaho Public Television and PBS prepare to cover the 2020 elections and shine a light on our democracy in action, a committed group of statewide donors has created the 2020 Democracy in Action Matching Gift Fund.

With critical elections right around the corner, our local and national writers, producers and journalists are digging and probing to help us make informed decisions around the issues and candidates. Programs like PBS NewsHour, Washington Week, and Idaho Reports have never been more essential viewing, and they need your renewed and continued support.

Donations received by October 31, 2020, will be matched by the 2020 Democracy in Action Matching Gift Fund, up to $40,000!
In the Community

Beginning September 14, Classroom Idaho: Learn @ Home will be broadcast on the CREATE Channel five days per week for K-6th grade from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m., and resource programming for grades 7-12 from 4:30 until 6 p.m. Mondays and Fridays and from 3 until 7 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays. English Language Learners sessions will continue at 3 p.m. on Mondays and Fridays as well as Career and College Counseling sessions at 4 p.m. on Mondays and Fridays. You can find online information at: idahoptv.org/learn/distanceLearning/schedule/.

On Saturday, August 29, IdahoPTV hosted an online preview of the new PBS KIDS program, Elinor Wonders Why.

The half-hour preview was followed by a discussion with Kari Wardle, IdahoPTV’s education manager; Gracy Ruddy, our PBS Early Learning Champion; and Joan Cartan-Hanson, the writer and producer of IdahoPTV’s award-winning program and website Science Trek. The panelists shared strategies for parents and teachers to spark inquiry and ignite curiosity with children.

The series premieres Monday, September 7. It will air each weekday at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. on the IDAHO Channel. The premiere is an hourlong special, which will repeat Friday, September 11, at the same times.

In each episode, Elinor models the foundational practices of science inquiry and engineering design — including her amazing powers of observation and willingness to ask questions and investigate. When she encounters something she doesn’t understand, like why birds have feathers or how tiny ants build massive anthills, she just can’t let it go until she figures it out. And in discovering the answers, Elinor often learns something about nature’s ingenious inventions and how they can connect to ideas in our designed world, and what it takes to live in a community. Elinor Wonders Why encourages children and parents to ask their own questions and experience the joy of discovery and understanding together.

Along with the television series, Elinor Wonders Why will offer digital content for kids, parents and teachers. Elinor Wonders Why games will be available on pbskids.org and on the free PBS KIDS Games app, along with clips and full episodes streaming across PBS KIDS’ video platforms, including the free PBS KIDS Video app.

An Elinor Wonders Why app will also launch after the series’ debut. Parent resources, including tips and hands-on activities to extend the learning at home, will be available on the PBS KIDS for Parents site, and PBS LearningMedia will offer classroom-ready materials for teachers, including video excerpts, games, teaching tips and printable activities.
Melissa Davlin
Online school started this week for my second grader, and for thousands of
families across the state. Between that and taking care of my 7-month-old,
there are more demands on my time than ever before, and the news is only
picking up at Idaho Reports.

A special legislative session begins Aug. 24, the state’s COVID-19 positivity rate
continues to stay above 10 percent, and the death count continues to rise. To
make sure we don’t miss anything, I’m relying more on coworkers to produce
the show and online extras. I’ve also reconfigured my work day, starting at 6:30 am and working until school
starts, checking in during recess and lunch breaks, and logging back on in the afternoon and early evening.

I’m not sure it’s an ideal solution, but it’s the one I have. Meanwhile, millions of working moms and dads are
currently coming up with their own less-than-ideal solutions. I’m lucky to have this flexibility. Please spare a kind
thought for those who don’t.

Lauren Melink
Over the past few weeks Outdoor Idaho has certainly lived up to its name.
I’ve been everywhere from the Sawtooths to Sandpoint, backpacking,
camping and climbing along the way. Most recently Jay Krajic and I were in
North Idaho for two very different shoots for an hour-long show titled, “Off
the Beaten Path,” set to air in March. The first shoot took place in the Hobo
Cedar Grove near Clarkia. The Hobo Cedar Grove is a collection of enormous
cedar trees that sprouted more than 500 years ago.

Our next shoot took us to Chimney Rock, north of Sandpoint. Here we met three rock climbers who showed us the
ropes to climbing this iconic spire. It was a great day with great people. You can check out Chimney Rock in a video
I put together for our Outdoor Idaho YouTube channel.

I’ve also started to work on other upcoming shows, including one about hunting in Idaho from a female
perspective. If you know any female hunters, feel free to share my email address: lauren.melink@idahoptv.org.

Hello, I’m Morgan McCollum, fresh out of the local commercial television world
of daily news. I have been in Idaho for the last 15 years after following my now-
wife’s family up here when they moved out of the Sacramento Valley in
California.

Since moving here I’ve dabbled in hunting, fishing, hiking and camping, although
my main hobbies still tend to keep me indoors. I like to collect and repair old
computers from the 80’s and 90’s. I also try to stay connected with distant
friends through online gaming of both the video and tabletop variety.
In addition to those hobbies I run a small social media project where I interview local artists and create videos to showcase their work and process. After an eight year stint as a cable installer, I decided I wanted to go back to school to peruse my passion of video production. I got a job as a part-time studio tech at KIVI in Nampa, and over the years I worked my way up through their ranks, going to College of Western Idaho where I got my AA in Communication, then to Boise State University where I graduated with my BA in Media Production.

I am excited to be shooting and editing with an amazing group of people where we get to tell stories in a longer format and bring experiences to people who might not get to have them without the aid of television. Both of my mother’s parents were teachers and they instilled a desire to learn and pass on knowledge, which I look forward to sharing with others.

**Joan Cartan-Hansen**

We begin the 22nd season of Science Trek on September 1, 2020, with – what else as its topic? – “Viruses”! In the piece on antibodies, I get a bit of a shock, so tune in. We are also working on our first 360° immersive video for the season on Geocaching. Troy Shreve is genius at this stuff and we are trying lots of fun things in this one, including a 360° zip line ride. This is a “flat” picture I took as our family flew past.

Geocaching is part of our show on the everyday impact “Satellites” have in our lives. That show airs in November. The web crew has the Science Trek website all ready for the new season and for increased use by students and educators working in the virtual world.

We’ve seen phenomenal growth in the website’s use and the video viewings. One video even had a 63,000% increase in views, year-to-year. We are all glad the site is being so well used and hope we can do more to help students, educators and parents learn about science.

**Forrest Burger**

I just got back from 10 days on the road doing double duty for Outdoor Idaho and Idaho Experience. I was able to track down some interesting stories for the first show of the 38th season of Outdoor Idaho. We’re calling it “Barns of Idaho,” and it will air in October.

I’m also working on a drive-in theater segment for December’s Idaho Experience episode, a nostalgic look at this great state.

The topics I’m exploring are taking me to places most folks would never go. And I’m reminded of something Ernest Hemingway once said: “A helluva lot of state, this Idaho, that I didn’t know about.”

**Bill Manny**

When I was at the Statesman, I headlined my article about climbing Borah Peak “The worst 12 hours you’ll ever love.” We could apply a similar label to the weeks we’re devoting to our December Outdoor Idaho show on climbing Idaho’s 12,000-foot peaks, along with some 11ers and 10ers to boot.

With Terry “the Mule” Lee hauling Jay’s tripod, we’ve climbed, backpacked, camped, dayhiked, sweated, bled, bumped and scraped our way up and down and around the state. Jay has a new collection of scratches, pokes and scars to prove it.
Along the way we’ve hiked and talked with a remarkable collection of Idahoans: moms and musicians, outdoor newbies and veterans, lobbyists and teachers, artists and counselors, speed demons and slowpokes, serious kids and silly seniors … all of whom share a love for Idaho’s mountains.

This summer has been a peak experience for our crew, and we’re hoping it’s the same for viewers in December.

Marcia Franklin
Idaho’s beauty spans a great range. Some areas, like high peaks, explode with visuals. Others provide more subtle relief for the eye, but are nonetheless captivating.

In that quieter league, I’ve always felt that prairies haven’t gotten their due. So with videographer Jay Krajic, I went to the Camas Prairie near Grangeville for an upcoming Outdoor Idaho. We did interviews with several people who call that expansive landscape home, including a farmer and several nuns at the Monastery of St. Gertrude, a remarkable structure that has risen up from the prairie for a century.

I also talked with one of the sisters for “The 180,” since she’s been through massive changes in her life, the theme of that series. And while in Grangeville, I moderated an online conversation for nearly 200 people about our latest Idaho Experience documentary, “Ahead of Her Time.” That event will be online in the near future.

Speaking of “The 180,” my latest episode features the uplifting story of Jonathan Amissa, a refugee from Cameroon who has a growing business in Boise. I guarantee you’ll feel better about our world if you watch even a small part of our conversation!

Terry “the Mule” Lee
We’ve been working on a December Outdoor Idaho show about climbing Idaho’s tallest peaks, but we learned that elevation isn’t the sole metric of the mountain’s challenge.

This past week, I once again volunteered to assist Bill Manny and Jay Krajic as they climbed some pretty exciting peaks in the Pioneer Range near Ketchum. We climbed Hyndman Peak (12,009’) and Cobb Peak (11,650’). And while Hyndman offered a relatively tame boulder scramble near the top, the Cobb ascent required more climbing skill and tenacious physical effort. Not afraid to admit, but it was actually kinda scary in places.

But we were rewarded with great views... plus this Rockalounger at 11,650’.

Bruce Reichert
On a summer weekend when there were 300 people at iconic Sawtooth Lake and 120 people at Goat Lake, why were we the only ones at this lake? I’m guessing it’s because there was no trail... and because you have to climb straight up a mountainside to get to it.

That makes it a perfect lake for our March program, “Off the Beaten Path.”

We had decided that our hour-long Outdoor Idaho show needed a mountain lake in the mix, but we didn’t want to pinpoint a particular lake and then have it overrun with campers.
I was reminded of someplace I had visited as a youth, that had been a real chore to get to.

Last month several of my colleagues and I visited that lake and brought along a young Forest Service employee who has been just about everywhere in the Sawtooth National Recreation Area. Hannah can speak convincingly about Idaho’s most photographed region. And we really did have the lake to ourselves. The trip up... and the more difficult journey down ... just isn’t everyone’s cup of tea, especially with a 40 pound pack on your back.

They say a drowning man will grab the edge of a sword. Me, I just grabbed a lot of young fir trees as I tried not to tumble down the mountain. Maybe I was a little too far off the beaten path!