



NEWSLETTER



Edited by Stephanie Adams

A quick glance at events and activities past, current and future happening in or around Idaho State University.



first edition

ISU Shares Holiday Joy with Multiple Concert Offerings
Princess Young, ISU alumna, 2012/2014, board member



The holidays are always a special time of year. However, adding a show (or two) to your schedule from the ISU Stephens Performing Arts Center can add a magical touch. Buy your tickets, view the full schedule into 2026, and get more details at <https://www.isu.edu/stephens/>

A few of the upcoming shows include:

- Dec. 12 & 13 at 7:30 p.m. each night: Idaho State-Civic Symphony Concert: Joy to the World
- Dec. 16 at 7:30 p.m.: Kurt Bestor Christmas
- Dec. 17 at 7:30 p.m. The Lettermen: A Christmas to Remember



WINTER ACTIVITIES

3MT, Jamie Howerton

Idaho State University's 3 Minute Thesis (3MT) competition took place on the evening of November 13, 2025 and it did not disappoint! This unassuming event is a competition where graduate students try to present their work in 3 minutes or less in a way that people who are not part of their specialty can understand.

Some of the topics were How College Athletes Adapt to Stress and Change, Menopausal Patient Care, and TikTok, Mental Health and Body Image. The anxiety of watching the clock count down was felt by the audience and the participants. Each 3-minute presenter did a fantastic job of describing their work and bringing excitement to the topic.



The winners included Will Kimball with first place for transforming sulfur waste into functional materials, Katelyn Cathcart with second place for bias in disability disclosure in the graduate application process, Michelle Collier with second place for cost-effective training to strengthen performance and sustainability in 911 dispatch centers. The People's Choice went to Brenda Phillips, with the gap between assessments taught in occupational therapy and what is actually used in clinical practice.



Some of these winners will go on to compete in the State three-minute thesis competition in the spring. This is one of my favorite events on campus and I had never heard of it in my 13+ years at ISU until I joined the Alumni Board. I hope to see more of you at 3MT next November!

WINTER ACTIVITIES

Play Review



Idaho State University's production of A Christmas Carol is one of the best stage productions I've ever seen. The storytelling pulls you in from the very beginning, blending classic charm with fresh, clever touches. The sound effects, puppetry, and use of limited stage space are incredibly well done and add a surprising level of magic to the show. The live music—especially the fiddler—creates an atmosphere that feels warm, heartfelt, and beautifully Christmassy.

The cast delivers sincere, emotional and at times funny! performances that make Scrooge's journey both moving and unexpectedly tender. The staging and design strike a perfect balance between festive sparkle and the ghostly elements of the tale. It's a joyful, polished production that sends you out ready for the holiday season.



The Festival of Trees at Idaho State University once again transformed the Stephens Performing Arts Center into a sparkling holiday showcase filled with beautifully decorated trees, festive lights, and cheerful seasonal displays. Families and community members enjoyed a variety of activities, including performances, visits with Santa, and hands-on holiday fun. The event also supported local causes, with proceeds benefiting area nonprofits, scholarships, and community programs. Warm, welcoming, and full of holiday spirit, the Festival offered a joyful start to the season and celebrated the strong community connection that surrounds ISU each year.

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This is the word cloud we generated at our homecoming meeting--what "lights you up about being on this board"?



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We hope you enjoyed this small compilation of events or activities that peaked a few board members' interests. Interesting in curating, contributing to and/or editing future of this newsletter? Volunteer! This is a fun way to contribute to the ISUAA Board that helps connect members to campus!