

Weekly Update



Idaho State
University

University
Honors Program

The Update in Brief

September 8, 2026

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- What's Happening This Week? | Important Deadline; ISU Events & Activities (Pg. 10)



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**It's ISU
Celebration
Week!**

Sept 8-12!

isu.edu/celebrationweek/

Events on next page

ISU Celebration Week Events

Student Social with President Wagner:
Tuesday, Sept. 8, 11:30 am - 1 pm at the
East side of Rendezvous near flag poles

Students are invited to
stop by for a soda bar's
custom drink in an ISU-
branded reusable cup

**"Jefferson and the
Meaning of Liberty" - A
conversation on Thomas
Jefferson**

**America 250 Speaker Series: Dr. Ron
Hatzenbuehler:** Tuesday, Sept. 8,
5:30 - 6:30 pm at the PSUB,
Little Wood River Room

**President's Fall Address: Rooted in
Legacy. Driven by Purpose:** Wednesday,
Sept. 9, 3:00 - 4:00 pm at Davis Field

All are invited to attend
President Robert W.
Wagner's address

A dynamic conversation
with ISU faculty, moderated
by President Wagner

**Faculty Panel- Rooted in Legacy.
Driven by Purpose:** Thursday, Sept. 10,
3:00 - 4:00 pm in the Little Wood River
Room and Zoom

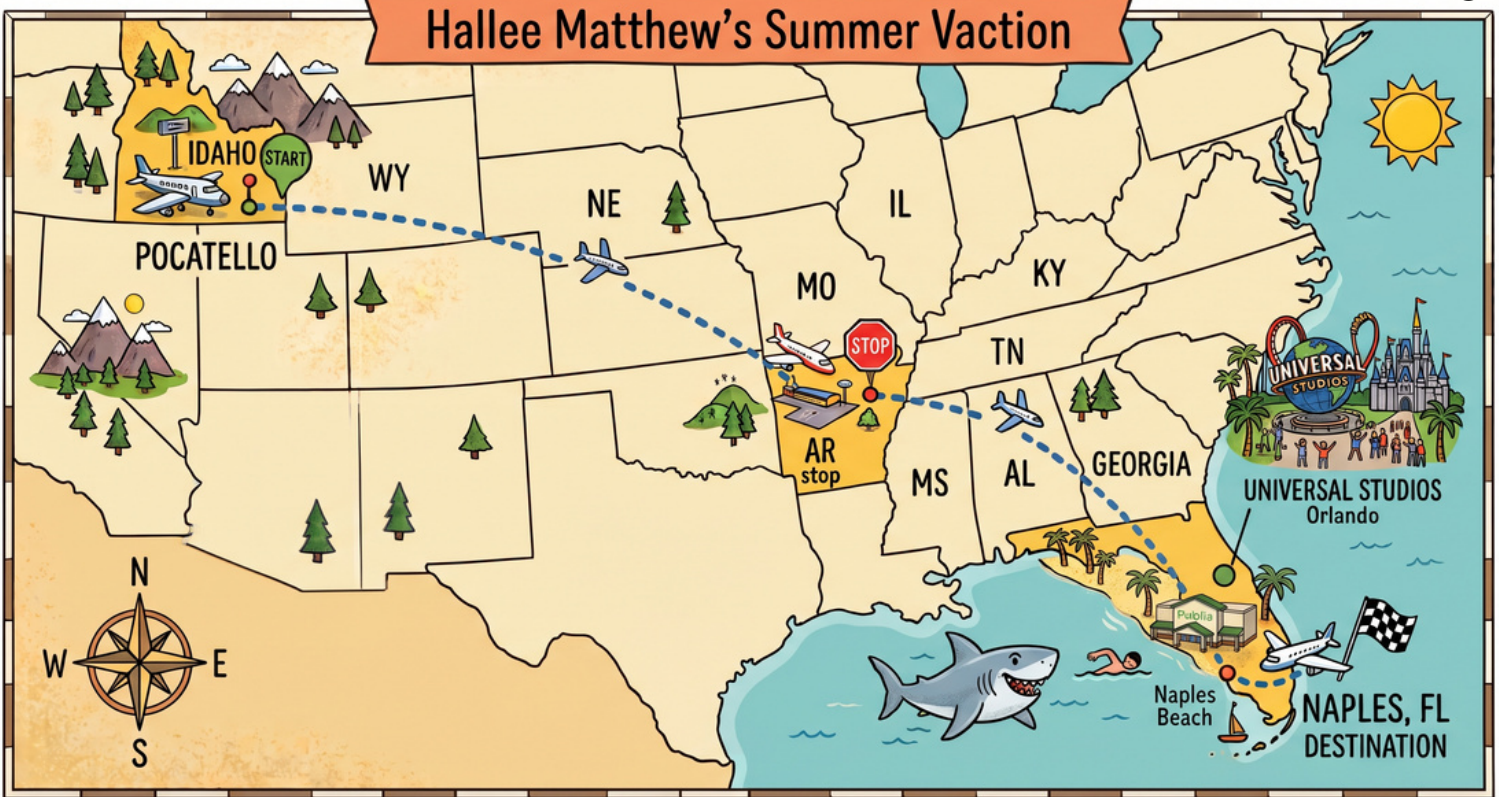
Bengal Block Party: Friday, Sept. 11,
4:00 - 7:00 pm along MLK Jr. Way
and Cadet Field

A lively streety fair with
interactive booths,
activities, food, giveaways,
music, and more!

**Bengals versus San
Diego Toreros!**

Football Game: Saturday, Sept. 12, 2:00
pm Tailgate, 4:00 pm Kickoff at the
ICCU Dome

Hallee Matthew's Summer Vaction



This summer, Honors Bengal Hallee Matthews took a nostalgia-packed two-week trip down South with her parents and sister. The family kicked off their vacation in Arkansas to visit close family friends and their new baby. After some quality time celebrating the newborn, it was time to fly down to the sunshine state of Florida.

The next stop on the itinerary was Naples, Florida, a city that holds a very special place in Hallee's heart. Having lived there for roughly three years during Covid, she was eager to return to her old stomping grounds. "The beach was definitely my favorite part," Hallee shared, and she wasted no time getting back to the sandy shores.

While enjoying the Gulf of Mexico coast, Hallee got creative, crafting a remarkably detailed sea turtle out of sand. They also visited the beach where they

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would fish for shark with some of her dad's peers and their families. After the sun went down, they would put out six different poles and stay out late into the night. "We mostly did catch and release with blacktips... and would stay until around 10pm or 12am," Hallee explained. She admitted that, despite their late-night dedication, "we were mostly unsuccessful."



On the Fourth of July, the family caught a dramatic display of pre-fireworks lightning right over the ocean before the fireworks lit up the night sky. Hallee managed to capture an incredible photograph of a jagged lightning bolt striking the horizon, with the fireworks barge sitting just to the left of the strike.



No trip to Florida is complete without a stop at a local staple: Publix. "Publix is just a grocery store, kind of similar to Fred Meyer," Hallee explained. "They've got the best lemonade though and a deli in the back. I completely forgot about the lemonade until we visited. The mango one is my absolute favorite."

To cap off the trip, they spent their final days at Universal Studios. With a mission to experience every single ride in the park in just one day, they had to strategize — and they found the ultimate hack. "We hit almost every ride in the new park in a day thanks to the glorious single rider's line!"

Ultimately, it was an incredibly memorable vacation filled with friends, family, and favorite traditions. Hallee's final thought? "It was a super fun trip!"

Want to share a story? Fill out the [UHP I Did A Thing form!](#)

Scribendi - Call for Submissions



**Submissions for Scribendi Vol. 41 are
OPEN**

Deadline: October 9, 2026

**Scribendi is a national collegiate honors
publication made by and for honors
students. They are accepting
submissions for the 2027 edition.**

Details and submit links at

<https://scribendi.submittable.com/submit>

NCHC Student Workshop - Introduction to Nationally Competitive Awards

Sept 16th, 1:00 - 2:30 pm (MDT)

Virtual Meeting on Microsoft Teams

Requires an NCHC student member account

[Create a Free NCHC Student Account](#)

**This workshop will help you learn how to
identify scholarship and fellowship opportunities,
how to find and use resources at your home campus,
and learn how to access NCHC resources**

Register for the Workshop at

www.nchchonors.org/Login.aspx





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DOLSEN VISITING WRITER

At 11 a.m., Dr. Johnson will teach a creative writing craft class for all interested ISU students in Liberal Arts 243. No previous experience with creative writing or advance preparation is required; attend ready to write!

**Sept. 9th |
11 a.m.
Liberal Arts
243**

**Sept. 9th | 5 p.m.
Salmon River
Room in the
SUB**

The Department of English and Philosophy will welcome attendees with light appetizers and a chance to briefly socialize. At 5:15, Dr. Johnson will read from her most recent poetry collection, *Fatal*. The reading will be followed by a Q&A session. This event is free and the public is encouraged to attend.

Dr. Johnson is a poet, translator, and literary editor and critic; and holds an M.A. from Johns Hopkins Writing Seminars, an M.F.A from the Iowa Writers' Workshop, and a Ph.D. in Renaissance Literature from the University of California at Berkeley. Her work has appeared in a variety of esteemed publications, including *The New Yorker*, *The Iowa Review*, and more.

DOLSEN VISITING WRITER

Fatal Kimberly Johnson



Kimberly Johnson

Wednesday, September 9 | 5 PM
Salmon River | Pond Student Union

This event is sponsored in part by the Department of English and Philosophy

BRS
B&S

blackrockandsage.org



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Announcements & Opportunities

ISU's 9/11 Day of Service Volunteer Opportunity

Volunteers are needed for multiple events scheduled throughout September

Memorial Art Volunteers

Volunteers will make art in any form to share at our 25th Anniversary Tribute Tunnel.

Community Preparedness Fair Volunteers

Volunteers will help direct and educate participants as well as help organize supplies and handouts.

9/11 Stair Climb Volunteers

Volunteers will help set up and run community service booths.



Learn more about the program and other events:

isu.edu/serviceday/911-events/

Announcements & Opportunities



**The NCHC Journal of
Undergraduate Research
& Creative Activity**

Call For Submissions

URECA is by students, for students. Any undergraduate at any institution (associate's or bachelor's program) can submit, and published work can be added to resumes or grad school applications. Plus, this is a great opportunity to have your work seen by an interdisciplinary national audience.

What you need to know:

- Open to any discipline
- Submissions are capped at 7,500 words (references don't count)
- Submissions are blind-reviewed: leave your name, school, and advisor out of the document itself
- Word docs only (.doc/.docx)
- No cost to submit
- Selected pieces are published online in November
- AI-generated content isn't accepted, unless it's specifically required for your research

Learn more and submit your work at
ureca.scholasticahq.com/for-authors

Important Deadline

The last day to file an
application for December
2026 Graduation is
Monday, September 21st.

isu.edu/graduation/apply/



ISU Events & Activities

- **ASISU Night at the Challenge Course:** Tuesday, Sept. 8, 4-8 pm at the ISU Challenge Course, 1260 Barton Road
- **Bengal Wednesday:** Wednesday, Sept 9, 12-1 pm at the PSUB
- **9/11 Memorial Stair Climb:** Friday, Sept. 11, 5-7:30 pm at the ICCU Dome
- **Foam Party:** Friday, Sept. 11, 7-10 pm on the Quad



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www.isu.edu/honors

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