



The Update in Brief

March 2, 2026

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Job Opportunity: Want to be on the radio?

Sustainable Idaho Radio Show Host GPI

No experience necessary--student hosts will receive training--but an interest in sustainable topics is a must!

Sustainable Idaho, an award-winning weekly radio show on KISU, is seeking new student host interns to start this summer. The show's aim is to provide eastern Idaho with a quality radio show that brings environmental and sustainability issues into everyday conversations.

Hosts work every week with professionals from the Portneuf Resource Council to decide on topics, write questions, arrange and hold interviews, edit the recorded interview with professional equipment, and revise their drafts after feedback.

This position is funded through the Career Path Internship program at **\$13/hour**. To be eligible, students should be prepared to train over the summer and then be available for a **10 hour per week** commitment during the academic year.

If you're interested in the position, send a cover email explaining your interest in the position, along with a resume, to Linda Engle LindaRSEngle@gmail.com



HONORS THESIS SPOTLIGHT

Chelsea Blanchard

“Now Hear This! The Impacts of Media Representation on Deaf Political Engagement and Social Acceptance”



When she isn't deep in data or a debate, you might find Chelsea Blanchard on the dance floor at an alternative/goth club in Salt Lake City. “You can take the girl out of the goth, but you can't take the goth out of the girl!” she says. On campus, Chelsea stays busy as a member and coach's assistant for the [ISU Rupp Debate Team](#), an experience she credits with honing her critical thinking skills. She also serves as the social media and marketing CPI for the [Bannock County Historical Museum](#)—which, she notes, is free to attend for ISU students!

Chelsea's research journey began through the McNair Scholars Program, which supports students from underrepresented backgrounds who intend to pursue graduate degrees. Because of her interest in media representation and policy, she was paired with Dr. James Pascali, a mentor with a background in political science and Deaf research.

Chelsea's thesis examines how media visibility of the Deaf community influences social acceptance and, in turn, public support for Deaf-led policy and political participation. Using survey data from 1,006 respondents she found positive correlations between media visibility and social acceptance. While Chelsea expected the type of portrayal (e.g., hero vs. victim) to matter, she found that simple visibility was the most significant factor in driving social acceptance and support for civic engagement. She hopes her work inspires professionals in Audiology to view Deafness as a rich cultural identity rather than just a medical condition to be “cured”. “I hope that my work will be published one day, and perhaps it will encourage people to engage with the Deaf community as allies.” Read her full abstract [here](#).

Chelsea is currently applying to graduate school at ISU to pursue an M.A. in Communications. If her academic path takes a pause, she plans to head to Utah to be near her adult children, where she is looking forward to becoming a first-time grandmother this July.

Chelsea has some solid advice for students thinking about engaging in undergraduate research, “Pick a topic that you are fascinated by and are interested in diving into. Go into the research without preconceived notions - as much as possible. And, don't pick a research topic just because you think it might be groundbreaking. Some of the most significant research contributions have started off as a simple research question.”

S26 BAHM!

It's that time of semester again!

BAHM 1: Tuesday, March 17th (5:00PM - 6:00PM)

BAHM 2: Wednesday, March 18th (8:00AM - 9:00AM)

BAHM 3: Thursday, March 19th (11:00am - 12:00PM)

This semester, instead of breakout sessions, we will have open advising for help with your schedules for the second half of the meeting.

Graduating seniors are not required to attend.

RSVP here by March 13

Volunteers Needed!



Saturday, April 4, 2026
12:00 - 2:30 p.m.

Event Hall
ICCU Bengal Alumni Center



We are looking for volunteers from 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM to set up, operate, and clean up the Tea. Volunteer assistance is also needed to prepare for the tea on Friday, April 3 beginning at 2:00 PM.

You don't have to commit to the whole day - even if you can only donate a couple of hours of your time, we would very much appreciate your help.

SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER HERE!

Feeling Crafty?

Donate Your Creation to the Opportuni-Tea Silent Auction!

An Opportuni-Tea is the premier fundraiser for the University Honors Program and an opportunity to spotlight the diverse skills of Honors students.

A main feature of the event is a silent auction. We would like to invite Honors students to donate original creative work to be auctioned. Donated work can be anything you've created—a painting, yarn art, woodworking, ceramics, sculpture, etc. The options are endless.

Your creative work doesn't have to be fully complete in order to let us know that you are interested in donating, as long as the item is complete and submitted by **Friday, March 13, 2026**.

If you'd like to donate creative work, please complete [this form](#).

Opportunity Scholarship Flower Making Sessions

At the **Opportuni-Tea on April 4th**, your Opportunity Scholarship request will be featured on a handmade, by you, flower ornament. We've found that donors are significantly more likely to give when they receive these handcrafted flowers.

There are **two flower making sessions** left for you to craft your flower and handwrite a thank you card!

Thursday, March 5 | 1-2pm | REND 228

Monday, March 9 | 4-6pm | Honors Lounge

(The Honors Lounge is outside REND 305)

Please [**RSVP HERE**](#)

March UHP Events

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH MIXER

Thursday, March 5th | 6-8:00PM | Wood River | PSUB

The University Honors Program Club in collaboration with the Society for the Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics and Native Americans (SACNAS) will be hosting an Undergraduate Research Mixer sponsored by the Office of Research.



The goal of the Research Mixer is to provide an opportunity for interested students to interact with faculty members, graduate students, and current undergraduate researchers involved in research across all disciplines at ISU, and we would love to have you join us at the event. You are welcome to bring any research materials you would like to share, including posters, proposals, abstracts, etc.

[Student Researchers: Register for the Event Here!](#)

HONORS DEGREE WORKSHOP

Thursday, March 12th | 4:00PM | REND 102

Learn about the processes and procedures associated with the Honors Degree with the UHP Director!

Dr. Robey will discuss how undergraduate research works in Honors and offer some suggestions about figuring out if the Honors Degree is right for you.



Announcements & Opportunities

2026 Bengal Giving Day

Bengal Giving Day is March 10-11!

**To support the Honors program,
share the Honors BGD page with
your friends and family!**

[UHP Bengal Giving Day!](#)

Other ways for you to participate:

**2026 Bengal Dash: Hunt for hidden Bengal figurines
across campus on March 11!**

**The Idaho State University Foundation and the 1901 Student Alumni
Association Club will be hiding 50 small Bengal figurines all over
ISU campuses (30 on the Pocatello campus, and 10 each at the
Idaho Falls and Meridian Campuses). Find and bring a Bengal
figurine to the PSUB Quad Lounge, or to the front desk in Idaho
Falls and Meridian, and ask them to direct \$50 of Bengal Giving Day
funds to the Honors Program.**

BGD Cookie Decorating in the PSUB

**The Idaho State University Alumni Association will be sponsoring
cookie decorating on March 11, at 3 p.m., at the Quad Lounge in the
Pond Student Union Building on the Pocatello campus. Come and
decorate a cookie!**

Announcements & Opportunities

Volunteer for Bengal Visit Day

Saturday, April 11

As the largest event we host on campus, this open-house style event allows students and guests to explore campus completely at their own pace. During the event, they have the opportunity to visit departments, hear about our different student resources available, chat with our student clubs/organizations, take a campus or housing tour, and so much more! We will need volunteers in all of these areas along with general volunteers (current students or faculty/staff) that can assist with information tables, distribution of materials, bus guides, set up/clean up, etc.

Register Here: [Volunteer Sign-Up](#)

Partners in the Parks®

Registration is now open for Partners in the Parks®, NCHC's immersive summer projects designed for honors students seeking hands-on learning, service, and adventure in national parks across the country. These are a great opportunity for those interested in experiential learning, environmental studies, civic engagement, outdoor leadership, or capstone development. These small-cohort programs offer meaningful academic and personal growth experiences beyond the classroom.

Summer 2026 Projects

- *Capitol Reef National Park (May 15–22)*
- *Acadia National Park (May 18–23)*
- *Shenandoah National Park and Appalachian Trail (May 29–June 5)*
- *Indiana Dunes National Park (August 4-7)*

Across all projects, students will:

- Engage in place-based learning and conservation work
- Collaborate with peers from honors programs nationwide
- Learn from faculty leaders and local experts
- Gain experiences that often inform capstones, research, or career pathways

Space is limited for each project and registration deadlines vary. Full details, eligibility information, and registration links are available at nchchonors.org

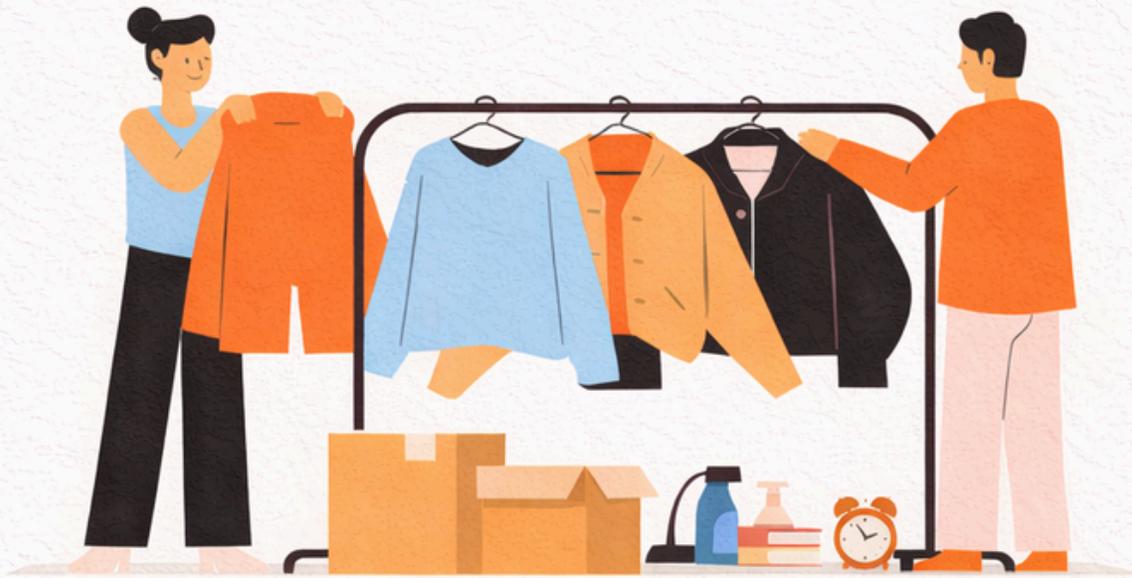


DONATE TO BENNY'S CLOSET

EVERY MONDAY • 12 – 2 PM

Pond Student Union Table

Bring clothing and any items in good condition!



If you have any questions, reach out to sustainability@isu.edu

- ✔ Clothing
- ✔ Household Items
- ✔ Stationery

Thank you for your donation!



Summer Authentic Research Experiences (SARE)

Summer Authentic Research Experiences (SARE) is designed to engage Idaho undergraduates in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields related to I-CREWS research and increase the number and preparation of skilled scientists and engineers in I-CREWS fields (geosciences, biological sciences, social sciences, and resilience science, computational modeling, machine learning and artificial intelligence) to provide analytical outcomes to proactively address the impacts of meteorological, population, and technological change on energy-water (E-W) systems.

Each student receives hands-on, paid (up to \$6,000) summer research experiences (full-time or part-time educational opportunities available), where they study topics broadly related to the I-CREWS project. Each SARE educational opportunity is designed as a learning experience and not employment.

Students participating in SARE will be expected to present research results at the Idaho Conference on Undergraduate Research (ICUR) in July 2026, as well as the Idaho NSF EPSCoR Annual Meeting. Students will be expected to participate in a virtual Summer Research Community, hosted by Boise State University, and network with other students in the SARE program. Students will also be required to submit a research profile to the Idaho EPSCoR website.

Student Applications are due on May 1, 2026

Find more information at idahocrewws.org/sare/
or contact ISU SARE lead Emma Fox-Fogle (emmafoxfogle@isu.edu)

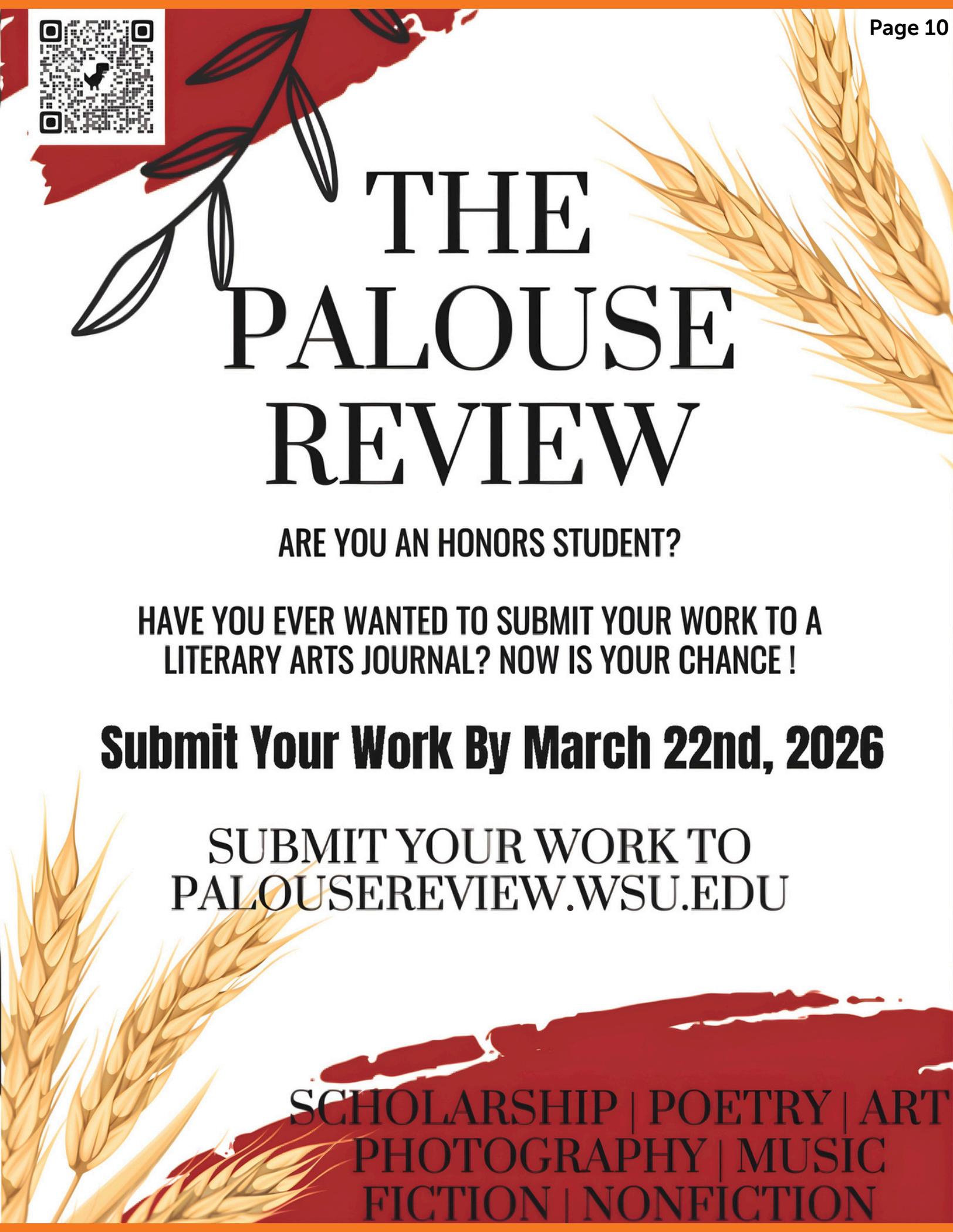


IDAHO

NSF EPSCoR

ADVANCING GEOGRAPHIC DIVERSITY IN STEM





THE PALOUSE REVIEW

ARE YOU AN HONORS STUDENT?

HAVE YOU EVER WANTED TO SUBMIT YOUR WORK TO A
LITERARY ARTS JOURNAL? NOW IS YOUR CHANCE!

Submit Your Work By March 22nd, 2026

SUBMIT YOUR WORK TO
PALOUSEREVIEW.WSU.EDU

SCHOLARSHIP | POETRY | ART
PHOTOGRAPHY | MUSIC
FICTION | NONFICTION

Midterm

DE-STRESS

FEST

Wednesday, March 4

10 AM - 2 PM

**Student Recreation
Center (Reed Gym)**

*** pot a plant * journal ***

*** paint * play games ***

**grab some food and
ride the smoothie bikes**

(11 AM - 1 PM)



**Idaho State
University**

University
Honors Program

Dr. Sarah Robey | Honors Director | sarahrobey@isu.edu

Dr. Kathryn Holt | Instructor/Coordinator | kathrynholt@isu.edu

Dr. Sarah Rick | Instructor/Coordinator | sarahrick@isu.edu

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www.isu.edu/honors



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