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Spokane Public Library librarian named one of Library Journal's 2018 Movers & Shakers

Spokane, Washington - Congratulations to Spokane Public Library's Jason Johnson for being named one of Library Journal's 2018 Movers & Shakers! This achievement is characterized by Jason's creativity and dedication in expanding the Downtown library and making it a meeting ground for the vast Spokane community.

With a vision to change the Spokane Public Library's Downtown branch into a thriving community destination, Jason introduced several innovative adaptations to the library scene. He utilized some of the library's misused space and designed a new floor plan that incorporates the LevelUp coworking space – complete with a Bloomberg terminal – and the community Lens stage, which provides a breathtaking backdrop for any musical performance.

LevelUp has proven to be one of the most important additions to the library. Complete with meeting rooms, a high tech classroom and an open modern working space, LevelUp is a revolutionary business resource for Spokane professionals. Jason made it possible to use a small budget to create an iconic addition to the library. Spokane Public Library is the second public library in the country to have a Bloomberg terminal.

“Jason turned stale, underused space into something magical and highly functional—a best-in-class resource for local professionals to convene and collaborate,” said Executive Director Andrew Chanse.

With the creation of the Lens stage, there is no shortage of fun and exciting events. There is a monthly 'First Friday' performance on the stage and movies are shown on the big screen every Wednesday evening. One of the newest events hosted on the stage is 'Lilac City Live', a “late” night variety show that highlights local Spokane talent ranging in authors, musicians, artists, comedians and more. Jason is responsible for planning each of these events and scheduling a multitude of awesome events.

Jason is one of 50 Movers & Shakers across the United States for 2018. Library Journal classifies a Mover & Shaker by those who are “transforming what it means to be a librarian.” These people propel a library forward in changing times.

About Spokane Public Library

Spokane Public Library delivers high quality education for all – opportunities to read, to learn, and discover the world. In accomplishing our mission, we keep in mind certain values that contribute to creating an open and welcoming place where all people can use the services of the library freely.

For general information about the library, please go to our website at www.SpokaneLibrary.org or call us at 509-444-5300

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