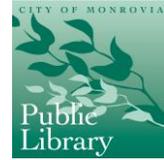




**CITY OF MONROVIA
LIBRARY BOARD**



DEPARTMENT: Public Services, Library Division

MEETING DATE: March 28, 2019

PREPARED BY: Rebecca Elder,
Adult and Literacy Services Supervisor
Linda Rivas,
Youth Services Supervisor

AGENDA LOCATION: CC-2

ADULT SERVICES REPORT

On Saturday, February 2, the library hosted a volunteer recognition lunch for 38 library volunteers. Volunteers were recognized for their many contributions to the library, enjoyed lunch and socialized. The event showcased the diverse roles and skills among fellow volunteers and demonstrated how their efforts impact the library and the community. Celebrating volunteers and their work for the community is a goal of the strategic plan.

On Saturday, February 9, staff hosted the movie, *Flower Drum Song*, as part of *Silver Screen*, the Cinematic Heritage Series for adults. Over 25 attendees enjoyed the musical, which was based on the novel by C.Y. Lee. This program is a part of the library's strategic goal of broadening patron experiences.

On Tuesday, February 12, staff hosted the first *StoryJam* event celebrating February, the month of love. Ten community members shared 10 minute personal love stories, which included pets, best friends, jobs, houses, cars, and romantic partners. Fire Chief Brad Dover started the *Love Story Jam*, along with members of the adult literacy program, and community members. This program is a part of the library's strategic goal of broadening patron experiences and expanding connections with community partners.

Game Night was held on Wednesday, February 13, and seven participants played a variety of different board games and wii games. This fun-filled evening is a great opportunity to socialize with fellow gamers. Snacks and beverages were included. This program is a part of broadening patron experiences for emerging adults in their 20's and 30's.

On February 13 and February 19, staff facilitated a creative activity at local senior residences, Heritage Park and Regency Court. Staff instructed over 15 attendees in a journal making project. Supporting *Active Mind, Active Life* programming for seniors is a goal of the library's strategic plan.

On February 20, Literacy Center staff and adult learners served as a panel of judges for the Writer to Writer Challenge, a statewide writing challenge for adult learners in literacy programs, sponsored by the Southern California Library Literacy Network (SCLLN). Adult learners read a book of their choice and write a personal letter to the author. Judging panels select one winner for each of four categories: emerging, beginning, intermediate, and advanced. Winners are recognized at an awards ceremony at the SCLLN Conference.

Literacy Center staff and tutors hosted an Open House in the Literacy Center on Saturday, February 23. Staff presented information on the literacy program, tutor training, and learner opportunities. Highlighting opportunities offered by the library is a goal of the strategic plan.

On February 28, Literacy Center staff visited the Monrovia Adult School and presented information to over 120 adult education students. Staff presented information about the Adult Literacy Program, issued library cards, and shared information on upcoming library programs and services. Expanding the library's partnership with the Monrovia Unified School District is a goal of the strategic plan.

YOUTH SERVICES REPORT

Every Thursday in February children ages 4 to 8 learned about elements of music through fun and interactive experiences during *Music Makers*. They played instruments like drums, bells, and maracas. Participants sang songs, danced, and expressed their inner musician. This program ignited all areas of child development and skills for school readiness: intellectual, social and emotional, motor, language, and literacy. A total of 53 attended in the month.

On Tuesday, February 5, the Library partnered with the Monrovia Post Office to offer a *Valentine Letter Writing Station* for children. They made and sent Valentine cards to friends and family. Stamps were available for purchase and supplies were on hand to aid in this creative way to make a greeting. This event had approximately 47 participants and supported our strategic goals of strengthening community partnerships and providing skill building for the 21st Century Learning Skill of literacy.

The *Great Stories Club* met on February 9 at Canyon Oaks High School to discuss Ta-Nehisi Coates' *Black Panther: A Nation under Our Feet* graphic novel. The discussion explored the theme of heroism and gave teens an opportunity to think deeply about the complexity of heroic actions, as well as applying the theme to issues in their own lives. Two new students joined the book group for a total of 12 participants. Students will have an opportunity to earn credit for delving deeper into the subject and writing an essay on a topic related to the book. Students picked next month's book, *Maus II: A Survivor's Tale: And Here My Troubles Began* by Art Spiegelman. In accordance with our strategic plan, this program strengthens the Library's relationship with Monrovia Unified School District and supports 21st Century Learning by providing opportunities to think critically and practice visual literacy fluency.

On Saturday, February 9, the library had a *Lego Club* program. Six teen volunteers help with the program. There were 24 kids between the ages of 2 and 10 who attended the event, along with a number of parents and caregivers. Kids built various things, including a dragon, time machine, an airplane and lots of other creations. Child-directed building is a great opportunity for kids to explore engineering fundamentals while sharpening their problem solving skills, thus developing their STEM skills.

On Saturday, February 16, the Monrovia Public Library once again partnered with the local *Art Time* studio as 20 pre-registered 5 to 12 year olds created a work of art using charcoal and colored pastels. This program aligns with the goal of supporting lifelong learning by adding in many developmental skills for young children, such as: motor skills, decision making, and visual learning. Each participant took their work home and this popular program is scheduled to repeat with 30 spaces during the summer months.

On Saturday, February 23 the library held an *Introductory Macramé Workshop* for teens 6th grade and up, and interested adults. A total of 17 attendees learned to make basic macramé knots to make their own wall hanging. Teen and adult participants found the program both a challenging and exciting learning experience, and many said they looked forward to continuing to learn at home. Participants enjoyed interacting with each other and helping one another through the learning process. This program contributed to community building and provided support for our strategic plan goal of offering expanded learning opportunities for the community.