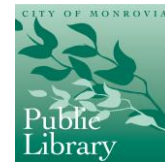




**CITY OF MONROVIA
LIBRARY BOARD
AGENDA REPORT**



DEPARTMENT: Public Services, Library Division

MEETING DATE: October 19, 2017

PREPARED BY: Rebecca Elder,
Adult and Literacy Services Supervisor
Elizabeth Schneider,
Youth Services Supervisor

AGENDA LOCATION: CC-2

ADULT SERVICES REPORT

Veterans Services staff completed the second interview of local veteran, Joe Callahan, for the *Veterans History Project* on September 11. Staff worked in partnership with KGEM staff and library volunteers to complete the video interview. The interview and accompanying photographs were submitted to the Library of Congress as a living document for viewing. The *Veterans History Project* is an ongoing program through the Library's Veterans Resource Center and meets a requirement of the *Veterans Connect @ the Library* grant funded project.

On Wednesday, September 13, Literacy Services staff hosted the second session for *Xprize*, a technology based approach to adult literacy learning. The seven million dollars Barbara Bush Foundation Adult Literacy Xprize presented by *Dollar General Literacy Foundation* is a competition that challenges teams of developers, educators, engineers, and innovators to create mobile literacy learning apps for adult learners. Literacy Services hosted two sign up sessions to assess and register qualified adult learners to help test the eight semi-finalist Xprize literacy apps. This program supports the strategic focus on technology.

A Volunteer Appreciation Event was held on Saturday, September 16. This year's theme was *You're a Star!* Volunteers represented the bookstore, technology assistance, digital projects, literacy tutors, and vet benefit coaches. Over 50 attendees enjoyed lunch by local caterer, Sally Atkins, which included a variety of tasty foods and desserts. This event showcases the dedicated individuals who donate their time and energy to benefit the library and supports volunteer retention.

On Saturday, September 16, Frank McDonough, Botanical Information Consultant from the Arboretum provided tips on today's healthy gardening. The program was held at the Nature Center in Canyon Park. Eight attendees learned about science based gardening practices. Expanding access to library services is a strategic focus.

Tabletop Card Night was on held on Wednesday, September 27, for adults 20's and 30's. A dozen participants played games like Exploding Kittens and Ricochet Robots. This fun-filled evening of skill, luck and comradery included snacks and beverages. This program is a part of broadening patron experiences for emerging adults in their 20's and 30's.

Literacy Staff attended the *Proliteracy Conference* on Wednesday, September 27 through Friday, September 29. The Conference on Adult Literacy focused on new tools, strategies, programming, and leadership skills. Workshops included presentations on technology, advocacy, instruction, citizenship, and high school equivalency preparation. Part of the library's strategic plan is providing staff development opportunities. Attendance at conferences expands staff skills and provides them with connections to best practices.

On Thursday, September 28, adult services staff presented library service and programming information to twenty members of the Monrovia Area Partnership (MAP) group. Outreach to area organizations help promote library services and create connections within the community. MAP leaders share library information and resources within their respective neighborhoods, providing library resources to local residents. Focusing on community partnerships is a strategic direction for the library.

On Thursday, September 28 through Friday, September 29 staff attended *The State of the American Veteran Conference*, at the USC Center for Innovation and Research on Veterans & Military Families. The conference addressed critical issues facing today's veterans and their family members. The focus was on understanding the military transition issues, learning about their needs and challenges, and moving toward concrete policy recommendations to increase their well-being and ease their transition. Part of the library's strategic plan is staff development. Part of the library's strategic plan is providing staff development opportunities. Attendance at conferences expands staff skills and provides them with connections to best practices.

YOUTH & TEEN SERVICES REPORT

On September 11, the library hosted best-selling children's author Wendelin Van Draanen. She discussed her childhood in Monrovia and the influence of the city on her popular children's series. At the question-and-answer portion at the end of the program, adult and teen attendees talked about growing up reading her books. Attendance to the event also introduced some younger readers to her literature, increasing circulation of the collection at the Library. The event built a sense of community around books and literature, and helped children learn about the process of writing books. The program was developed based on patron feedback from surveys distributed in the summer, and aligns with enhancing experiences and creating learning opportunities for people.

On September 23, the library hosted a Maker Day 3D printing program for children and their families. This program was developed to support the strategic direction of enhancing experiences for patrons at the Library. Staff is initiating the goal of refreshing 20% of programming to emphasize 21st century skills. 20 children registered for the 2-hour program to learn how to use the web-based *TinkerCad* program to design objects to be printed on the library's 3D printer. Participants used laptops and were given instructions on basic TinkerCad functions, then used their skills to design their own objects. Children used the maker learning processes of inquiring, tinkering, seeking and sharing resources, and hacking and repurposing through independent learning. Staff and volunteers helped to guide the independent learning process by working with children to solve problems and deepen understanding of concepts.

Bilingual programming is developed to work toward the Library strategic goal of enhancing access to patrons. This month's *Night Owl Bilingual Storytime* was held on September 27, and attracted over 30 attendees of all ages. Since the first session of the storytime in June, many older preschoolers and school-aged children have enjoyed this family storytime in Spanish and English. The program was designed to support bilingual literacy by helping children acquire new vocabulary and improve reading comprehension skills through Spanish language stories. Vocabulary and concepts are reinforced through songs. The resources were shared with parents to help them support their children's bilingual education. Participation will enhance both English as a second language and Spanish language learners. Families

reported checking out Spanish language music CDs from the library and feeling more confident about sharing Spanish language books and music with their children. A grant from the state of California was used to enhance the bilingual collection by 520 titles.