

CITY OF MONROVIA LIBRARY BOARD AGENDA REPORT



DEPARTMENT: Public Services, Library Division

PREPARED BY: Rebecca Elder, Adult and Literacy Services Supervisor Linda Rivas, Youth Services Supervisor MEETING DATE: June 28, 2018

AGENDA LOCATION: CC-2

ADULT SERVICES REPORT

Hawaiian Dance was on held on Saturday, May 5 and over 40 participants moved to the beat of Hawaiian music, with Yvonne Lohelani Garcia and Company. Attendees learned about Hawaiian Island history and culture in celebration of Asian/Pacific Islander week. This program is a part of the library's strategic goal of broadening patron experiences for adults.

On May 10, 11, and 18, Veterans Services staff and volunteers participated in the *Spring 2018 Workshops for Veterans Connect* @ *the Library Grant Libraries*. The workshops were conducted by CalVet and focused on *CalTap* (CalVet's new California Transition Assistance Program), military culture and finding and referring veterans to resources. Attendance at workshops is a requirement of the Veterans Connect @ the Library grant.

On Thursday, May 17, Literacy Staff visited over 55 students at the Monrovia Adult School to promote literacy programs and services to three adult school classes. The Library partners with the Adult School to provide life-long learning opportunities for adults in the community, a goal of the strategic plan.

On Monday, May 28, Veteran's Resource Center staff and volunteers attended the annual Memorial Day remembrance at Live Oak Cemetery in Monrovia. The event is hosted by the Allied Veterans Council. Staff and volunteers hosted a table with veterans benefit information. Library staff attends this annual program to provide outreach and support to local veterans and veteran's organizations.

On June 1, Veterans Services staff and volunteers met with Yesenia Guerra, Project Director, *Veterans Upward Bound Program (VUB)*, funded by the U.S. Department of Education. *VUB* empowers veterans to pursue a college education and helps veterans smoothly transition into college-level courses and successfully navigate the college enrollment process. *VUB* offers free college prep classes in Computer Science, English, Mathematics, Typing, Foreign Languages, and Science. Providing resources to staff, volunteers, and veterans meets a requirement of the *Veterans Connect* @ *the Library* grant funded project.

June 2 began the first in a series of seven sessions in June and July of *Meditation Transformation*, an introduction to meditation for life balance and self-care with a transformational coach. Attendees learned techniques to relieve stress and anxiety to feel more at ease in their daily lives. The series is for ages 16 and older and is part of the library's strategic goal of broadening patron experiences.

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Summer Safety for Pets and People was held on Saturday, June 2 at Monrovia Fire Station 102. Michele Holbrook, a representative from the *Pasadena Humane Society* and Fire Captain Chris Huson, from the *Monrovia Fire Department* presented summer safety tips. Focusing on community partnerships is a strategic direction for the library.

On Tuesday, June 5, literacy staff provided a tour of the library and literacy center to over 40 students from the Monrovia Adult School. Tours help students learn about the library and offers information about tutoring, getting a library card, borrowing materials, study rooms, and computer access. The Library partners with the Adult School to provide life-long learning opportunities for adults in the community, a goal of the strategic plan.

On Saturday, June 9, Literacy and staff and volunteers participated in the annual *READ/San Diego's 28th Annual Tutor Conference* at the University of San Diego. Key Speaker, author Dr. Maryanne Wolf presented, *How the Reading Brain Changes Our Understanding of Instruction, Dyslexia, and the Digital Culture.* Dr. Wolf will be the Director of the newly formed Center for Dyslexia, Diverse Learners, and Social Justice at UCLA. The conference featured workshops on technology, comprehension, visual storytelling and language building. A goal of the library's strategic plan is providing staff development opportunities. Attendance at conferences expands staff skills and provides connections to literacy best practices.

Library staff attended a *California Revealed* workshop at the Los Angeles Public Library on Thursday, June 14. *California Revealed* is a State Library-supported project to help California's heritage institutions digitize and provide long-term access to historically significant books, documents, and newspapers. The workshop offered tips on best practices for description, digitization, quality control, and digital preservation. Providing staff development and learning opportunities is a goal of the library's strategic plan.

YOUTH SERVICES REPORT

Homework Help - The Library's collaboration with the Monrovia Unified School District and Duke Freyermuth finished its school year of assisting students at the Library with their homework needs. Over the course of the last school year, Mr. Freyermuth and his volunteers held fifty tutoring sessions and worked with 507 students. To thank the tutors and Mr. Freyermuth for their outstanding work with the Library hosted a pizza party. The tutors have helped students of all ages with no appointment or cost on subjects like English, reading skills, math, Spanish and Chinese languages.

Summer Reading Club Assemblies - Library Staff visited all of the five elementary schools to present an exciting, interactive assembly reminding students to sign up for the upcoming Summer Reading Program *"Reading Takes You Everywhere"*. All students from Kindergarten to 5 grades attended. Young volunteers were asked to come up on stage and participate in a game show style activity which not only taught students about the world, but also about signing up for the reading program. During the month of May, Youth Services staff met over 3,500 students.

Monday Movie Night - Thanks to the generosity of the Friends of the Monrovia Public Library, the movie *Rio* was shown on Monday, May 14. The Library's TAB volunteers served fresh popcorn to the 53 people who came to watch the movie. *Monday Movie Nights* are a great opportunity for families to connect with one another and gain exposure to the library's collections and programs.

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Animal Fair - On Saturday, May 12, library staff partnered with a local Girl Scout Troup to hold an *Animal Fair*. Families could play *BINGO*, learn about the Pasadena Humane Society, watch a wild animal puppet show and discover what local critters they might see on a nature walk. Participants also made animal toys to be donated to animals in need. In addition to providing a fun and informational program centered on pets, this event gave the participating girl scouts an opportunity to practice foundational 21st century learning skills, particularly collaboration and public speaking skills, in alignment with the library's strategic plan. The event had approximately 48 in attendance.

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