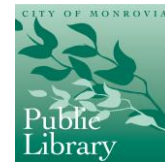




**CITY OF MONROVIA
LIBRARY BOARD
AGENDA REPORT**



DEPARTMENT: **Public Services, Library Division**

MEETING DATE: August 23, 2018

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

AGENDA LOCATION: CC-2

ADULT SERVICES REPORT

Veterans Services staff completed an interview of local Navy veteran, Marcia McCoy, for the *Veterans History Project* on July 6. 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.

On July 28, Taylor Paez, local birding specialist, presented information about becoming a citizen scientist by observing birds in the community. The program was held at the Canyon Park Nature Center. Ms. Paez introduced participants to "ebird"—part of the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. Recreational and professional birders enter their observations, which are then reviewed by experts, providing one of the largest biodiversity data resources. This program is a part of the library's strategic goal of broadening patron experiences.

Tabletop Game Night was held on Wednesday, July 18, for adults and participants played board games and socialized 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 Saturday, July 28, Literacy staff held a Visual Storytelling training for tutors. Tutors learned how to create their own visual stories using basic digital and non-digital materials to use as a model for adult learners. Tutors were shown how to support literacy development in new ways by incorporating visual story construction in their individual sessions. Continued training is a requirement for tutors to keep skills updated and to support life-long learning.

YOUTH SERVICES REPORT

On July 14, *Buster Balloon* provided an entertaining family show filled with comedy, magic, audience participation, and amazing balloon twisting. *Buster Balloon* incorporated popular books into the show to encourage literacy and create one-of-a-kind experiences with the children in the audience. One hundred twenty people enjoyed the performer's silly jokes and talented balloon sculptures. The program was a hilarious demonstration of creativity and innovation.

On July 19, *SciLab* featured a geology program. Thirty-seven elementary age participants used identification kits and microscopes to learn about the features of minerals, and applied scientific techniques to identify them. One third-grader came in with rocks and minerals he found while hiking and used his new techniques to determine what they were composed of. The program helped children develop the 21st century learning skills of problem-solving and using scientific reasoning to learn about the world around them, in accordance with our strategic goal of having 20% of youth services programming focus on this skill set.

On July 26, the library continued its collaboration with Oak Crest Institute of Science and the Community Services department to offer a 3D printing workshop to five Oak Crest Junior Research Academy students. The small group size allowed staff to provide individualized instruction. Attendees were encouraged to join the Teen Advisory Board and use their 3D printing knowledge to help young children in future *Maker Day* programs. Having students guide other students will allow the library to make 3D printing available to more people, in accordance with our strategic goal of enhancing public access to state of the art technology tools and services, because more novice students will receive personalized attention, master fundamentals and print their creations on a 3D printer.

On July 26, eight stations were created for children to learn about *Food Science*. Participants were encouraged to give their hypothesis, followed directions and discuss if their hypothesis was correct. Children moved through different experiments including making ice cream in a bag, putting marshmallows in dry ice; floating a candy bar; and attempting to create an electrical charge out of lemons. The program had 51 in attendance. The Food Science program was part of our commitment to providing engaging *STEAM* programs for children of all ages that builds 21st Century Skills.

On July 28, the Wildlife Learning Center introduced families to animals from around the world. With 185 in attendance, Wildlife Learning Center inspired people to care for wildlife, the environment, and develop a deep interest in life sciences. They introduced a grey fox, rabbit, skink, milk snake, armadillo, and porcupine. After the program, many families stayed and participated in the end of the summer raffle where approximately 20 donated items were given away. This program was an expression of the library's vision of offering the community enriched experiences while supporting life-long learning.

On July 31, first through fifth graders were introduced to stories from Australia, where they ate Fairy Bread, learned a song from the Torres Strait Islands, and played Fish for Facts as we learned about the Great Barrier Reef during our *One World, Many Stories program*. Younger participants and volunteers shared their travels and experiences around the world. By permitting kids to provide insider knowledge, the library became a space for peer to peer learning that contributes to a stronger sense of community. During the month of July, 161 children were in attendance at the four One World, Many Stories programs.

On August 4, the Monrovia Reads Van stop at the Huntington Oaks Shopping Center to promote the library, answer questions, pass out program materials and gather feedback from community members about the library. Approximately 50 people were seen. Visitors expressed positive opinions about the library and the Monrovia Reads Van. This visit was the last in a series of van visits to the Huntington Oaks shopping center designed to increase library awareness and gather feedback regarding the needs in Southern Monrovia as well build partnerships between the library and local businesses within the community.

On July 27, the library held a monthly *Maker Day*, a 3D printing program to teach the basics of designing objects in TinkerCad. The fifteen participants ranged from elementary-aged children to parents who were interested in learning 3D design skills to share with their children. After a demonstration of basic design concepts participants worked on a project of their choice with help from staff and volunteers. Repeat participants were happy to learn new techniques and think more deeply about the possibilities of 3D

design. The Maker Day program contributes to our strategic goal of providing *STEAM* programming that builds 21st Century Skills, innovative thinking and life-long learning.

The library saw a sharp increase in the number of 3D printing requests in July, which included many returning Maker Day students who continued learning independently after attending the program. The library had 45 printing requests in July, compared to the typical 5-15 requests in other months. This illustrates the impact the library's *STEAM* programming is having on our community and its on-going benefits for our patrons.