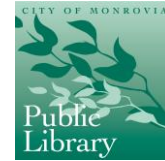




**CITY OF MONROVIA
LIBRARY BOARD
AGENDA REPORT**



DEPARTMENT: Public Services, Library Division

MEETING DATE: October 25, 2018

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

AGENDA LOCATION: CC-2

ADULT SERVICES REPORT

On September 5-6, staff attended a two-day in-depth training, *Designing Programs for Results* sponsored by the California State Library. The training was held at the Grantsmanship Center in Los Angeles and staff learned how to identify and document community needs and aspirations; specify realistic, meaningful and achievable changes to address these needs; identify methods that are most likely to bring about the desired changes and develop programs to implement those methods; design doable, informative evaluation approaches; and develop realistic budgets to support program and evaluation activities. This approach is central for creating well-developed, impactful projects that benefit communities and attract funders. Establishing programming that aligns with organizational values and strategic directions is a goal of the strategic plan. Attendance at trainings expands staff skills and provides connections to library best practices.

Tabletop Game Night was on held on Wednesday, September 12 and over 10 participants played a variety of different board 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 Tuesday, September 14 and Friday, September 18, staff facilitated an activity to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month at local senior residences, Heritage Park and Regency Court. Staff instructed over 25 attendees in a *String Art Project* inspired by the artwork by Huichol Indians of the Sierra Mountains of Mexico. Supporting lifelong learning and *Active Mind, Active Life* programming for seniors is a goal of the library's strategic plan.

On Saturday, September 15, staff hosted a classic movie, *Singing in the Rain* as part of the Cinematic Heritage Series for adults. Thirty-five attendees experienced the world as it was decades ago and stepped back in time for a bit of nostalgia. This program is a part of the library's strategic goal of broadening patron experiences.

Literacy Center staff attended the California State Library Literacy Conference on September 25-26 at the Tsakopoulos Library Galleria in Sacramento. Over 90 libraries with Adult Literacy Centers were represented at the conference sharing their expertise and love of literacy. The workshops were a mixture of keynote speakers, panels, and breakout sessions which included tips for tutor recruitment/retention. The theme for the event was *The Power of the Adult Learner Voice*. Attendance at trainings expands staff skills and provides connections to library best practices.

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On Saturday, September 29, Veteran's Resource Center staff and volunteers attended the *Women's Veterans' Alliance Unconference* at the Pacific Palms Resort/Conference Center, City of Industry. Workshops included business, career, and financial individualized coaching, health and wellness sessions, childcare, and a social event for women veterans. Staff provided information about veteran benefits and resources and networked with veterans services agencies. Developing partnerships with service providers is a goal of the library's strategic plan. Attendance at trainings expands staff skills and provides connections to library best practices.

YOUTH SERVICES REPORT

Library teens have assembled for weekly drama lessons and rehearsals to prepare for the upcoming production by *Off the Page Players*. This Readers Theatre group will be presenting *Halloween stories* in a fun, family friendly performance on October 27, 2018 for children and their families. Six teens, from 4th to 8th grade, have participated during the month of September and October to practice and prepare. This program not only fosters the 21st century learning skill of collaboration amongst the teens, it provides an engaging program that strengthens a sense of community between the teen actors and the audience of families.

During the month of September, 113 people attended the movie showing of *Beauty and the Beast*. Free popcorn was served to all ages. Teen Advisory Board volunteers assisted in setting up the program, making and serving the snack, and cleaning up at the end. Monday Movies are made possible by the support of the Friends of the Monrovia Public Library, and encourage families to see the library as a gathering space.

The school year started with the assistance of tutors at the library. Partnering with the Monrovia Unified School District, Pro-Active Tutoring and the Library offer free assistance from pre-qualified tutors with homework help in subjects like English, math, reading, and languages that include Spanish and Mandarin. Students are encouraged to bring their homework on Mondays and Tuesdays from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. Once signed in, they are partnered with a tutor for one-on-one support. Each session averages 15-20 participants ranging from Kindergarten to 8th grade. These free tutoring sessions are a great way to make educational support available to all families.

On Saturday, September 8, we had our first *Lego Club program*. Five teen volunteers helped out. Forty-five people showed up for the event, which was supposed to last for one hour, but ended up going on for an extra 45 minutes. There were children between the ages of 1 and 13 at the program, along with a number of parents and caregivers. Kids built various things, including a spaceship, an octopus, and a colony for fairies. Overall, there was a strong turnout and a very positive response to the program. Building with legos helps kids develop engineering and spatial relation skills, making this a fun and accessible STEM event for all ages.

On Saturday, September 15, a *Pirate Day* event for International Talk like a Pirate Day was held. Storytime with pirate related books and songs gave a fun twist to literacy practice. Make-your-own-pirate-hat, Goldfish snacks and pirate treasure for kids to claim after completing a scavenger hunt in the Youth Services area of the library added to the festive atmosphere while giving kids practice following directions, using their reasoning skills and working as a team. A total of 55 people attended the program, including, a number of children dressed up as pirates.

During the week of September 24, twelve students in grades 1-6 participated in a weeklong hands-on science academy at the Oak Crest Institute of Science located in Monrovia. The program was part of an ongoing partnership between the Monrovia Public Library and the Oak Crest Institute of Science. The program was supported by the Innovation Station Grant awarded to the library by the Southern California Library Cooperative. Students were introduced to a different concept and activity each day, and built upon their skills throughout the week guided by faculty and interns. Children had the opportunity to use the scientific equipment used by scientists at the institute, and engaged in complex experiments such as extracting strawberry DNA, growing bacteria in petri dishes, and making polymers. Children and parents expressed their appreciation for the variety of hands-on experiences they had during the week, as well as the opportunity to learn from experts in the field. One parent wrote: "My son enjoyed learning so many science terms and using equipment. Thanks for making science fun and come to life for kids. He always asks me questions and it was nice to have such knowledgeable scientists at hand to answer questions."