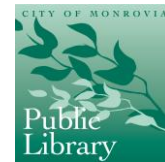




**CITY OF MONROVIA  
LIBRARY BOARD  
AGENDA REPORT**



DEPARTMENT: Community Services,  
Library Division

MEETING DATE: April 25, 2019

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

AGENDA LOCATION: CC-2

---

**ADULT SERVICES REPORT**

On March 2, Literacy Center staff hosted a *Journal Writing Workshop* for volunteer tutors and adult learners. Local Adult Education Instructor, Kate Kessler led the workshop, which included writing activities to support the needs and goals of learners. Journal writing builds fluency and encourages learners to make text-to-self connections. Supporting lifelong learning is a goal of the library's strategic plan.

On Monday, March 4, Literacy Center staff and tutors held the first session of *Write Club*, a writing club for adult learners. Learners gather bi-weekly and engage in writing activities to enhance their roles and goals in the Literacy Program. Tutors are on hand to provide support and encouragement to participants. Supporting lifelong learning is a goal of the library's strategic plan.

*Harry Potter Trivia Night* was held on Thursday, March 7 at the Copper Still Grill in Monrovia. Forty-five participants played on teams and also enjoyed butter beer shots—a concoction created specifically for the event by the Copper Still Grill staff. This program is a part of broadening patron experiences for emerging adults in their 20's and 30's.

*Game Night* was on held on Wednesday, March 13, and 8 participants played a variety of different board games and a variety of 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 March 12 and 22, staff hosted a *Mindfulness* activity at local senior residences, Heritage Park and Regency Court. Vanessa Quintero, local instructor, demonstrated meditation techniques to 20 attendees. Supporting lifelong learning and Active Mind, Active Life programming for seniors is a goal of the library's strategic plan.

On March 16, Veterans Resource Center staff and volunteers hosted a booth at the Foothill Unity Health Fair. Information about veteran's benefits and resources were made available to over 170 attendees. Developing partnerships with service providers and highlighting the various library services available to the community are both goals of the library's strategic plan.

On Saturday, March 23, staff hosted *Role Playing Game 101* which featured Dungeon Master Tamara Brooks, who provided an introductory dungeon crawl and how to play the game to ten participants. This program is a part of enhancing patron experiences and supporting 21<sup>st</sup> century learning skills like strategy and collaboration.

Staff hosted *Healthy Soil for Urban Gardens* on Saturday, March 23. Dana Hopper of @Homegrownveggie presented ten attendees with tips and tricks on growing plants that impact overall personal health, and how soil has a large impact on the food we eat. Supporting lifelong learning is a goal of the library's strategic plan.

## **YOUTH SERVICES REPORT**

On Wednesdays in March, children between the ages of 4 years and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade engaged in unstructured play focusing on themes such as Store/Restaurant, Veterinarian, Emergency, and City. Using the toys and props provided, participants' problem-solved, imagined, focused, and evaluated. During the Emergency program, Monrovia Fire Department firefighters visited the kids and explained some of the ways they help keep the community safe. *Language Skills* were supported when children imitated, read, wrote, listened, and communicated. *Social and Emotional Skills* were improved through sharing, cooperation, and empathy. This program meets our strategic goals of supporting 21<sup>st</sup> century learning skills and building partnerships with other city departments. This program had a total of 178 participants during the four week series.

On Saturday, March 9, between 1 and 3 p.m., the Library hosted a *Lego Club* program. Seven enthusiastic Teen Advisory Board (TAB) volunteers helped with the program. This was the largest group yet with 46 people attending. There were children between the ages of 2 and 12 at the program, along with a number of parents and caregivers. Kids built various things, including a hat (a real life size hat), a train, two orcs and many other creations. The lego program supports our strategic goal of providing STEM programming. Working with legos gives participants an opportunity to practice their engineering skills and understand spacial relations.

On March 15 at the *Canyon Oaks Book Club* meeting, students discussed *Maus II: A Survivor's Tale: And Here My Troubles Began* by Art Spiegelman. Ten students participated in the March meeting, and they discussed the use of graphic novels and visual metaphors to explore the theme of heroism. Participants said they enjoyed the graphic novel, and most appreciated the fact that it was based on a true story. They chose *Binti* by Nnedi Okorafor to read for the April meeting of the book club. The book club is a great way to meet the library's strategic goal of partnering with the school district to expand youth programming.

*Express Yourself Through Art* was a teen program held on March 20. During the two-hour program, 21 participants used paint, markers, and collage to express their creativity. Participants learned the techniques of using marbles, tape, and paint to create abstract art. This program was created in collaboration with Healing Connection's March 4 Balance to give teens an opportunity to express themselves in a low-stress, inclusive environment. The *Express Yourself program* also supports our strategic goal of lifelong learning and better engagement with key stakeholders within the community.

On Saturday, March 23, the library hosted its first *Storytime Time*, with participants between the ages of 0 and 8. Overall, there were 51 attendees at the outer space themed event. Stories about a chicken in space and how many stars are in the universe were read, songs about rockets and comets were sung and we all, even the parents/caregivers, pretended we were rockets blasting off. This program addresses a desire for working parents looking for Saturday story time options. This aligns with the strategic direction of enhancing access to library services for all members of the community.