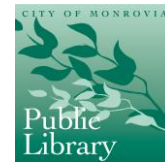




**CITY OF MONROVIA  
LIBRARY BOARD  
AGENDA REPORT**



**DEPARTMENT:** Community Services, Library Division

**MEETING DATE:** Oct. 24, 2019

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

**AGENDA LOCATION:** CC-2

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**ADULT SERVICES REPORT**

On September 5, Adult Services staff and Wingwalker Brewing partnered to present *Beer 101*. Participants learned all about the brewing process and enjoyed tastes of IPAs to dark lager beer. The program is a part of broadening patron experiences, a goal of the Library's Strategic Plan.

On Saturday, September 7, Adult Services staff presented *Gather & Make: Upcycle Books to Journals*. *Gather & Make* is a new series of creative programs with the goal of fostering community while providing a creative experience at the Library. The program is a part of broadening patron experiences, a goal of the Library's Strategic Plan.

On September 11 & 25, Adult Services staff introduced *Stop, Drop, & Make*, a two hour drop in creative program for adults from 2:00-4:00 p.m. the second and fourth Thursday of each month. Activities include coloring, stamping, card-making, and other quick and easy fun activities. Attendees can create something new each week or work on their own project.

On September 13, Literacy Center staff hosted an Orientation Session for *Abriendo Puertas / Opening Doors Family Literacy Program*. Staff presented information about the program to four adult education students from the Monrovia Adult School. The program runs from 9/13-11/8 and provides parents and caregivers with family literacy tools and tips. Supporting lifelong learning is a goal of the Library's Strategic Plan.

*Harry Potter Trivia Night* was held at the Copper Still Grill in Monrovia on Tuesday, September 17. Thirty-three participants played on teams and enjoyed an exciting evening of trivia. Trivia night participation is enthusiastic and many participants wear themed clothing for the events.

On September 25-28, Literacy Center staff presented two workshops at the *Annual ProLiteracy Conference* on Adult Education in San Diego. Staff workshops featured Monrovia Public Library's Literacy book club for adult learners and online volunteer training. The conference highlights included effective new strategies for adult education professionals. Supporting lifelong learning is a goal of the Library's Strategic Plan.

On September 19, Veterans Resource Center staff and volunteers attended a *Homeless Symposium* at the California Endowment in Los Angeles. The symposium was hosted by CA State Los Angeles Chin Family Institute of Nursing. Breakout sessions included innovative services for the homeless community; healing through writing; mental health; and better serving veterans.

On September 29, the annual Literacy Fundraiser, *Team up, Dream Up*, sponsored by the Monrovia Public Library Foundation was held at the Library. Participants enjoyed a dessert bar, e-scavenger hunt and a book signing by adult learner Mabel Ngo. Ms. Ngo, with the assistance of her tutor, Eileen Blasius, wrote a book about her father-in-law's journey from Cambodia to the United States. Fun was had by all and funds were raised in support of the library's ongoing efforts to provide literacy for all ages.

## **YOUTH SERVICES REPORT**

The first *Book Swap Saturday* on September 7 attracted 32 teens, who stopped by the library to swap their books for something new to read. Teens who did not have books to swap could still get something new to read, thanks to teen book donations from library patrons, staff, and advanced reader copies from publishers. Several teens also spent time in the teen area doing origami crafts and coloring. Through this program, the library was able to reach teens who usually cannot engage in the library's regular programming for teens, such as those living in group homes or institutional settings. A group of teens on a library field trip were able to get books to keep, and learned about the library's Teen Advisory Board (TAB) program.

Teen *Video Game Lounge* took place immediately after the September TAB meeting, and 26 teens attended the program. Many teens stayed behind after the TAB meeting and invited their friends to join in the fun. The teens played Sims and Minecraft on library laptops, and a group played the Settlers of Catan board game. The program attendees enjoyed pizza while playing and socializing with their friends. Some teens had video game recommendations for subsequent programs. Social programs such as this give teens an opportunity to enjoy favorite activities such as video games while interacting with their peers face to face. It also establishes a welcoming and safe space for teens to spend time after school.

The 2019-20 *Great Stories Club* at Canyon Oaks High School started in September. A total of 12 teens signed up to participate in the first four-month session of the program. The first meeting took place on September 12, and students learned about the four titles they will be reading and discussing in the next several months. They also learned about each other by engaging in a less formal discussion of their interests and activities outside of school. During the following meeting on September 26, they discussed the first title of the series, Ms. Marvel by G. Willow Wilson while enjoying their favorite snacks of candy and chips. Students in this group will have an opportunity to earn school credit by attending meetings and completing assignments.

On September 18, *3D printing* took place, and attracted 26 people of all ages. Parents and children worked together to learn about 3D printing and started designing their projects. Attendees could exercise their creativity and decide on projects they wanted to work on. Children designed keychains, beads for bracelets, and pencil cases, among other creations. Programs like this give children and opportunity to exercise creativity while learning digital literacy skills. SciLab 3D printing is planned as a series of programs that will take place on the third Wednesday of every month.

On Saturday, September 21 the library hosted a *Lego Club* program. Five teen volunteers assisted with the program, and 43 people attended the event. There were children between the ages of 2 and 10 who attended the program, along with a number of parents and caregivers. Children built a wide variety of things at the program. Overall, we are happy with the turnout and continue to have a very positive response to the program. Constructing with Legos provides many learning opportunities in alignment with our strategic plan, including creative expression, solving engineering challenges, and learning spatial relationships, as well as engaging in collaborative learning and discovery.

The Library held the first *SciLab drop in* program for the fall on Wednesday, September 4. Staff are implementing a new format that requires no registration and allows attendees to show up at any time

between 2:00-4:00 p.m., in order to accommodate more participants. A total of 45 children attended and three teen volunteers assisted at the program. The participants had a ton of fun exploring with the microscopes and experimenting with circuits, current and electricity, using Little Bits and Squishy Circuits. SciLab is a great informal learning opportunity that engages children in science and technology activities in a self-paced, supportive environment.

Library Staff offered an interactive after-school music class for 5 to 8 year olds. Children are actively engaged in games and songs that develop listening, reading, and writing skills. Participants are encouraged to sing and play instruments, while learning new words, strengthening brain stimulation and motor skills. Dances learned during the program help increase concentration and spatial intelligence. After the four week program, children were able to follow the rhythm of music notes to a steady beat and were also introduced to cultural music from around the world. Total attendance was 126 for the series.