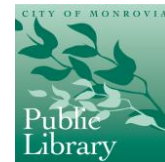




**CITY OF MONROVIA
LIBRARY BOARD
AGENDA REPORT**



DEPARTMENT: **Community Services, Library Division**

MEETING DATE: May 27, 2021

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

AGENDA LOCATION: CC-2

ADULT SERVICES REPORT

Literacy Programs

This month a total of 171 tutors and learners participated in 25 programs in April, including *Book Clubs*, *Culture & Conversation*, *Speak Easy*, *the Write Club*, and the new *Nonfiction Book Club*. All programs took place virtually via Zoom, allowing learners to continue their progress on their literacy journey while the library is closed. Staff also attended several virtual trainings, including one that focused on inclusion and cultural awareness for tutors.

Veterans Services

Veterans Resource Center staff attended several virtual meetings and trainings on providing services to veterans and their families, including an April 28 workshop with the *California Department of Veterans Affairs*, helping veterans learn and use the benefits they earned. This month, staff provided services and support to six veterans and their family members.

Novel T's Book Club

On April 27, Adult Services staff hosted the virtual Novel T's Book Club. A total of 14 members participated in the April discussion of *The Known World*, by Edward P. Jones.

Book to Action

Book to Action event series, a grant initiative by the California Center for the book, kicked off this month with *In Conversation with Josh Tickell of Kiss the Ground*. This year's theme is sustainability and the book selection is *Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge, and the Teachings of Plants* by Robin Wall Kimmerer. Additional events included *Wildflower Seed Bomb* and *Live with Locals*, social media conversations with local experts from Canyon Park, Monrovia Community Garden, and Arlington Gardens. A total of 195 attendees participated in this month's activities.

YOUTH SERVICES REPORT

YouTube Puppet Sing Along

April 29 was the second of the two recorded sing-along programs that we posted on YouTube. Staff hosted the program and were joined by several different singing and talking puppets, once again voiced by various staff members that helped him to sing songs, including, *The Itsy Bitsy Spider*, *B-I-N-G-O* and more. The program was a lot of fun to produce and has been well received with a total of 17 views in April.

CC-2

Storytimes

Online Storytime videos covered a range of topics, including bilingual songs about numbers and fingerplays for all to enjoy. Themes included recognizing and managing feelings of sadness and worry, a creative alphabet story that supports letter recognition, and a book about the solar system. Continuing story time on YouTube ensures that we are helping children and their families with a variety of literacy and early education skills, including literacy, the development of motor skills and social skills.

All storytime, STEM, craft, unboxing, Book to Action, and other videos in the month of April were viewed 4,314 times.

Spring DIY Craft Kits

In April we distributed our *Spring Break DIY Craft Kits*. The kits contained freeform crafting materials and included materials to make a specific craft, *Fingerprint Bugs*. The kits were directed towards school age children. In addition to the kits a special *Craft Corner* video was produced for YouTube that promoted the kits and showed kids how they could make the Fingerprint Bugs with the materials provided. This program supports 21st century learning skills in accordance with our strategic plan, including fine motor and STEAM skills. A total of 13 kits were distributed in April.

Teen Advisory Board (TAB)

The April Teen Advisory Board (TAB) meeting was attended by 11 teens. During the meeting, teens talked about spring break and resuming in-person learning. TAB members volunteered to present about two trees in Library Park and Community Center, the Moreton Bay Fig and Sycamore. During this meeting TAB also discussed the upcoming officer elections, and the application process for becoming a candidate. TAB provides many leadership opportunities for teens, and teens look forward to resuming officer elections and taking more responsible roles in planning and advising services for teens.

STEM

In this month's *SciLab* at Home, children and their families conducted a number of different experiments to figure out how arches work and what type of arch is the strongest. Participants learned how arches support the weight above it or the hydrostatic pressure against it, and are better able to appreciate these architectural marvels that are usually overlooked due to their common use and their efficiency.

Zoom Club

On April 21st *Zoom Club* was offered to 1st through 5th graders. This was an opportunity for students to socialize and have fun after school. Games were played and children were able to socialize and strengthen critical thinking and team building skills. This forty-five-minute program had four students in attendance. Games played were *Would You Rather*, *Two for One*, and *Five Second Rule*.

Outreach

On April 3 the Library participated in the *Spring Stop and Hop: Drive Through Egg-stravaganza!* This program gave families the change to celebrate spring and participate in a drive through event hosted by the City of Monrovia. Library staff was in attendance with the Monrovia Reads Literacy Van and a craft giveaway to every registered child. Many organizations were in attendance and over 700 people showed up. Approximately 450 crafts were distributed from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.