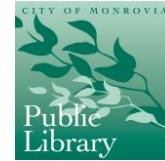




**CITY OF MONROVIA  
LIBRARY BOARD  
AGENDA REPORT**



DEPARTMENT: **Community Services, Library Division**

**MEETING DATE:** June 24, 2021

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**

***Literacy Programs***

In May, a total of 119 learners and tutors participated in 19 programs, including the *Culture & Conversation* group, *Speak Easy* group, the *Write Club*, the *Nonfiction Club*, and the learner *Book Club*. All programs took place virtually, allowing learners to continue their progress on their literacy journey. Staff attended a virtual workshop for *Library Literacy Services Values and Essentials* provided by the California State Library.

***Veterans Services***

Veterans Resource Center staff served as a panelist for Veterans Connect @ the Library at the annual California Library Association Conference on May 13. Staff shared veteran success stories and the programs and events that lead to those successes. This month, staff provided services and support to 8 veterans and their family members.

***Novel T's Book Club***

On May 25, Adult Services staff hosted the virtual *Novel T's Book Club*. A total of 12 members participated in the May discussion of *Through the Looking Glass*, by Lewis Carroll.

***Book to Action***

Book to Action event series, a grant initiative by the California Center for the book, concluded this month with Christopher Diaz, Chumash Fire Keeper and Activist. This year's book selection was *Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge, and the Teachings of Plants* by Robin Wall Kimmerer and the theme was sustainability. May's events included a *DIY Compost Bin* and two film screenings, *Gather* and *Wilder than Wild Live. Live with Locals*, social media conversations with local experts from the City of Monrovia, included Fire Chief, Brad Dover and City Manager, Dylan Feik. In addition, Giangelo Leos, certified California naturalist, presented information on Conservation and Firescaping. A total of over 1,017 attendees participated in this month's activities.

## **YOUTH SERVICES REPORT**

### ***Craft Activity Kits***

In May we continued with our monthly Youth Craft Kit distribution. The May craft kits contained freeform crafting materials and included rainbow scratch paper to make a *Flying Toy* craft. 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 Flying Toys with the materials provided. A total of 25 kits were registered for and 15 kits were picked up. This program supports 21st century learning skills in accordance with our strategic plan, including fine motor and STEAM skills.

### ***Storytimes***

Staff continue to create story time videos to bring literacy to children in engaging ways. Books read included a twist on the familiar theme of having to sleep in one's own bed, slowing down to appreciate the world around us and an introduction to traditional Chinese desserts. Songs and fingerplays were included, which help children develop their ability to imitate sounds and practice fine motor skills.

### ***Book Talk: Ten Out of Ten***

To support literacy and encourage a love of stories, Book Talks introduce new literature to young readers in a fun and entertaining way. The new video series highlights ten staff favorites each month on the library's YouTube channel by incorporating visually stimulating mini summaries to entice kids to check-out different genres and new materials available at the library.

The storytime, craft, book talk, and STEM videos this month had a total of 744 views in May.

### ***Teen Advisory Board Meeting***

The Teen Advisory Board (TAB) meeting in May was attended by 19 TAB members. During this meeting, members elected the new TAB officer board for the 2021-22 school year. Every year, TAB members elect officers, who are responsible for conducting meetings, and help the TAB librarian plan teen services. TAB aims to give teens opportunities to exercise leadership skills, and all members are encouraged to submit an application for officer positions each year. This year, high school student involvement in TAB has been prevalent, as many high school students could attend virtual meetings more easily than in-person meetings, and the TAB officer board reflects that. Being on the officer board will help those high school students improve their public speaking and leadership skills ahead of college, and increase their involvement in the library and community.

### ***Jewelry Making***

This virtual program was planned and conducted by the TAB Vice President, who wanted to share her skills for making earrings. The program attracted 8 teens, who picked up kits from the library to help make earrings and bracelets, then used Discord to participate in the program. The TAB member who conducted the program demonstrated techniques for using toys and small everyday objects to make cute and creative earrings. Other participants showed earrings they'd made, as well as sharing their ideas for objects to make into earrings. This was a great example of a program that enables teens to share their hobbies with others and have a bigger role in planning and delivering programs for teens.

### ***Outreach***

Staff made a virtual visit to Plymouth to talk to students of all ages about all the programs available at the library this summer, as well as the Summer Reading Program and making sure everyone knows the library is open and we are eager to welcome them back. Children were very engaged and expressed interest in a number of programs. This outreach was attended by 35 children, and was a great opportunity to stay connected to our families as we transition between virtual and in-person library programming and services.