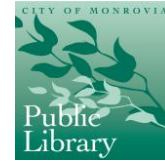




**CITY OF MONROVIA
LIBRARY BOARD
AGENDA REPORT**



DEPARTMENT: **Community Services, Library Division**

MEETING DATE: September 23, 2021

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

AGENDA LOCATION: CC-2

ADULT SERVICES REPORT

Literacy Services

In August, a total of 43 learners and tutors participated in four programs. During this month, staff attended the *CLLS Adult Literacy- Theory & Practice* training, as well as the *America Learns Open Table Talk*, which discussed how tutoring is changing in life with COVID. The new Literacy staff member, Jade Mushisky, is also reaching out to each tutor and learner to introduce herself in her new role as Literacy Coordinator.

Veterans Services

On August 23, Veterans Resource Center staff welcomed Hayden Velasquez, to the Veterans Resource Center. Hayden is the newest Los Angeles County Veterans Service Officer providing in-person assistance to veterans and their families in preparing and submitting claims and representing claimants before federal, state and local agencies. Hayden is on-site Mondays 10am-4pm & Thursdays 12pm-4pm by appointment.

Novel T's Book Club

On August 24, Adult Services staff hosted the virtual *Novel T's Book Club*. A total of nine members participated in the monthly group discussion of *Fire and Blood* by George R. R. Martin.

YOUTH SERVICES REPORT

Storytimes

On August 12, a live YouTube *Ocean Themed* storytime was presented for 10 families. Children enjoyed stories like *Rainbow Fish* by Marcus Pfister and *Mister Seahorse* by Eric Carle. Songs in sign language were taught and crafts were demonstrated. Materials for crafts were made available for pickup prior to the program. Story times, including virtual sessions, ensure that we are helping children and their families with a variety of literacy and early education skills, including the development of motor skills and social skills. A recording of the live event was posted afterwards and, along with other virtual storytimes, had a total of 53 views in August.

Crafts

In August, the library held our first in-person *Crafternoon Hangout* in Library Park. School aged children registered to attend. Participants received a craft box with materials and supplies at the event. During our hangout, we made several crafts and the kids chatted about what they were working on. At the end of the

event we all shared what we made. A total of 10 children participated. This program supports 21st century learning skills in accordance with our strategic plan, including fine motor and STEAM skills.

Other Programs

August 27 through 29, the library offered people of all ages the opportunity to learn about animals from around the world. *Animal Sanctuary Wild Wonders* provided a link for participants to learn about their resident opossum, alligator, pygmy hedgehog from Africa, an armadillo and so much more. This video safari featured a keeper/educator who spoke about the animals' natural habitats, diets, and their adaptations while the animals were recorded close to the camera so children could get a great look at them. Ten families registered for the link to this virtual experience.

Teen Programming

The Teen Advisory Board (TAB) meeting took place in the library and on Zoom for members who could not be present. This was the first in-person meeting since 2020 and it was led by TAB officers. A total of 12 teens attended in person and eight attended virtually. This was the first step towards resuming normal activities, and TAB members were happy to attend in-person meetings. The TAB members learned about fall programs for teens as well as volunteer opportunities. The library continues to be a place for teens to connect with each other and the community, and the uninterrupted nature of teen services during the pandemic ensured that teens feel connected and welcome in the library as school starts.