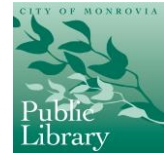




**CITY OF MONROVIA
LIBRARY BOARD
ADULT AND YOUTHSERVICES PROGRAM REPORT**



DEPARTMENT: Community Services
Library Division

MEETING DATE: January 23, 2014

PREPARED BY: Linda Granicy,
Acting Library Division Manager

AGENDA LOCATION: CC-2

LITERACY SERVICES

Card Campaign: Literacy Tutors and Learners sponsored a holiday greeting card campaign encouraging the Community to send correspondence to the men and women serving in the military. Approximately, 100 cards were sent to soldiers via Books for Soldiers, a non-profit organization that sends books to soldiers serving abroad in the military. Everyone who participated was happy they could send a bit of cheer to the troops.

Cal Humanities Grant Application: The Library received a \$2,000 grant for the California Reads program, sponsored by Cal Humanities in partnership with the California Center for the Book, and the California State Library. The 2014 theme, War Comes Home, will focus on the veteran experience, aiming to increase public understanding and empathy for those who have served, as well as to spark public conversation on how best we can support the process of reincorporating our veterans into the fabric of civilian life. Staff submitted a program plan to incorporate Karl Marlantes' book, *What It Is Like to Go to War*, to include programming for the whole family, from early literacy to veteran resources.

2013 California Library Association Conference: California Library Association (CLA) held its 115th annual conference and exhibit at the Long Beach Convention Center on November 3rd through 5th. Author, musician, and radio personality Henry Rollins was the keynote speaker. Librarian II Rebecca Elder, who serves on the CLA PR Excellence Committee, assisted with presenting 10 winners honoring libraries in promoting and communicating their message to their customers at the awards gala. She had the opportunity to check out the latest library products and services, and participate in workshops, including Family Literacy, Veterans Services, and 21st Century Job Skills. The California Library Association provides leadership for the development and improvement of library services and actively works to influence legislation supporting libraries.

Literacy Funding: Staff received notification from the California State Library in November 2013 that Monrovia was awarded a total of \$29,563 for the California Library Literacy Services grant. Staff was initially informed the literacy program would receive the \$10,000 baseline for this fiscal year. Staff was happy to hear they received the additional \$19,563 per capita money. This is approximately \$4,000 more than 2012-13 allocation. This is recognition from the State Library that they see how Monrovia continues to move literacy forward.

ADULT SERVICES

Holiday Sounds: December 7th, Staff hosted the third annual Holiday Sounds program featuring the music of the Sterling Flute Choir. The program included 45 minutes of traditional classical music as well as a selection of holiday music, including a wonderful rendition of the Dreidel song. The performance featured five types of flutes including bass flutes, a contrabass flute, and a piccolo. The flute choir is made up of mainly college students from California State University, Northridge with a few former members in the mix. Approximately 30 people of all ages sat down to enjoy the music, and many more enjoyed the music as they were going about their library business.

Covered California: November 14th, Staff partnered with StoneTapert Employee Benefits to present an informational program on the Affordable Care Act to 17 attendees. StoneTapert has a contract to provide outreach, information and enrollment services to people in the Monrovia area. Staff continued the partnership presenting a second workshop to 22 attendees on December 7th. The attendees were presented with an introduction of the application process and were given the opportunity to enroll in a health plan.

Dealing with Difficult People: October 24th, Staff attended the workshop that was both informative and practical, including sharing personal experiences from the presenter and attendees. Everyone who deals with difficult people or difficult situations, regardless of the environment, learned from the workshop. The presentation addressed: 1) effective strategies to preempt difficult situations and dissolve the situation before it escalates, 2) techniques in addressing specific situations, 3) common mistakes that can worsen conflicts, 4) how to address personal threats, and 5) how to reinforce positive behavior in difficult situations and with difficult people. Valuable information included: 1) early recognition and intervention into potential problems, 2) creating a system with a detailed plan for dealing with and eliminating any possible hostile environment, 3) keeping all discussions calm, 4) every individual matters, and 5) treating people with dignity and respect.

YOUTH SERVICES

Science Month: November's Science Month at the Library was very successful. Staff offered four hour-long science programs for youth in grades first through fifth. Approximately 65 children and 35 adults attended each session and left asking for more. Each program was packed full of information related to a variety of scientific topics. Great Scott the Glad Scientist explained and demonstrated the properties of air and water. Dr. Cornford, from NASA/JPL, showed a video about a Mars mission and talked about the sizes of things from the smallest atoms to the biggest stars. The Wildlife Company displayed live animals and explained interesting facts about insects, amphibians, reptiles and mammals. Librarian Gail Jebbia led a hands-on experiment during which each person made their own batch of Oobleck then performed experiments that demonstrated the characteristics of solids, liquids, and polymers. Science Month supported Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) education by offering engaging programs that encouraged further exploration of a scientific topic. Because response was overwhelmingly positive, Staff plans to present more STEM programming in the future.

Holiday Programs and Santa Visits: The Library hosted two daytime Santa storytimes. Holiday music played as 230 children, ages two through five years, sang Christmas carols, listened to Santa read stories, and visited with Santa as parents took photos.

The Library hosted two nighttime storytimes in the beautifully decorated cabin at Canyon Park to children ages five years and older. Santa read stories to over 100 people and led a sing-a-long, while family members took photos with Santa and enjoyed holiday refreshments.

The Library continued the celebration to 85 attendees with the presentation of *Sleigh Full of Stories* for ages four years to fifth grade on December 14th. Parents and children listened to holiday stories, sang songs, watched the short film, *Max's Christmas*, based on the Rosemary Wells book, and ate Christmas cupcakes. Staff continued the Library's longstanding tradition of providing a bead fusion ornament craft for families to hang on their tree at home.

Monrovia-Duarte Teen Summit: The annual Teen Summit is scheduled for Saturday, February 22nd from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Monrovia High School. The goal of the Summit is to inspire and equip participating youth with tools to achieve their personal, educational and career goals. The event is offered in cooperation with the cities of Monrovia and Duarte, Monrovia Unified School District, Santa Anita Family YMCA and the Boys & Girls Club of the Foothills. This event is made possible by local event sponsors and donations. Mayor Mary Ann Lutz and the City of Duarte have each committed to a sponsorship goal of \$3,500 totaling \$7,000 in event sponsorships.