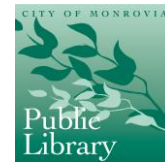




**CITY OF MONROVIA  
LIBRARY BOARD  
AGENDA REPORT**



**DEPARTMENT:** Public Services, Library Division

**MEETING DATE:** February 23, 2017

**PREPARED BY:** Rebecca Elder,  
Adult and Literacy Services Supervisor  
Elizabeth Schneider,  
Youth Services Supervisor

**AGENDA LOCATION:** CC-2

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**YOUTH SERVICES REPORT**

Book Buddies was a four-week long program geared to Kindergarten and First Graders between January 11 through February 1. The theme title was *Let's Have Mo Fun* and focused on the creative writing talents of Mo Willems. Each week the children arrived and learned about a different book and its characters like Knuffle Bunny, Elephant and Piggy, and Pigeon and Duckling. Participants not only learned about these stories, but also about the library. Fun games were played like: Library Bingo, Storybook Animals Paddle Board, Parachute Balls, and Happy Face/Sad Face. Children learned how to draw popular book characters, discussed how the library works, new vocabulary words, talked about our emotions, the difference between fiction and non-fiction, and watched short videos based on Mo Willems books. The kids were also challenged to complete a book log during the four weeks and if returned complete, they receive a prize. At the end of the program, all participants received a Mo Willems book bag and a free book. Attendance included 185 people at the end of the four weeks.

Demand for Kids Kitchen encouraged staff to increase supplies for the second installment of the series to accommodate 60 participants on January 19. Children created Waldorf Salads and fruit parfaits. Participants practiced their reasoning skills by choosing which ingredients to include in their salad, expanded their senses by tasting new foods, and practiced their fine motor skills by chopping walnuts, grapes, celery and apples. Fruit parfait was a success for children and parents alike as each child made their very own whipped cream. Teen Advisory Board volunteers checked up on the children's progress and offered help when needed, providing intergenerational opportunities for teaching and learning.

Bead Fusion at the Library was held on Saturday, January 21 with approximately 57 participants. This open-house style program allowed children of all ages to come in and create their own bead fusion craft. Children learned design and math elements when they followed already prepared outlines. Participants were allowed to also tap into their creative side and make up a bead model on their own. Completed bead plates were then brought to the volunteers who helped melt it together to finish off each project. Children were allowed to make as many as they wanted and take home their completed work.

A total of 30 patrons participated in Lunar New Year story time on January 28. The event focused on reading stories, singing songs and discovering how science and cultures can intersect. Children were participated in art projects such as moon phase art, painting a rooster with a fork, and using multi-media techniques to create cherry blossoms for a New Year card. Each craft chosen was a process craft which allowed children to make individual decisions about their art, explore new ways to interpret supplies and share their knowledge with other participants.

**CC-2**

The first of the two planned February Science Adventures programs took place on Thursday, February 9. The program was attended by over 50 people of different ages – both regular attendees and newcomers who heard about the program through Monrovia Today and Macaroni Kid. For this program, the attendees made no-bake play dough and translucent silly putty. Everyone, from preschoolers to adults, enjoyed mixing ingredients, experimenting with texture and color, and playing with their creations. Children practiced skills like following a recipe and measuring. They also experimented with adjusting the quantities of each ingredient to achieve a different texture. One important outcome for hands-on programs is to give children confidence through self-directed learning, which will help them at school.

Cupcake Wars took place on Saturday, February 11. A huge crowd showed up to challenge each other and show off their creations. The whole family was invited to take a plain cupcake and design the most creative, edible dessert. Some of the projects completed were butterflies, mermaids, towers, emoji's, a fire, and even a bear. They used frosting, chocolate, cookies, pretzels, jelly beans, licorice, and more. Photos were taken of each finished design and then the cupcakes were promptly eaten by their creators. Winners and honorable mentions were posted on the Monrovia Public Library Facebook page. There were 110 in attendance.

Black History Month was celebrated through many mediums in February. Upcoming programs include a workshop to highlight children's literature that inspires diversity and social action, a family storytime celebrating African American authors and storybook characters, and a visit by Ron Husband, Monrovia High School alumni, illustrator and first African American Disney Animator.

### **TEEN SERVICES REPORT**

The most popular TAB created program, Movie Mania, was held on January 13 and February 10, with a future program on March 17. Each title is voted on at the TAB meeting each month. In January, TAB voted to watch *The Ring*. In February, TAB watched *Marmaduke*. When attending these movie nights, teens gain social skills and form relationships with other teenagers while creating social commentary for the movies and enjoying snacks. It is also an opportunity for teenagers to have ownership over their programming as they not only pick the title of the movie each month, but also help set up the room. Movie Mania is a great introduction for teens interested in joining TAB, and a safe place to hang out on a Friday night.

The Monrovia Duarte Black Alumni Association hosted a movie program just for teens on Wednesday, February 8. Twelve teens watched a movie about the Little Rock Nine, which included interviews with the brave African American students who attended Little Rock Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas. Afterwards, MHS alumni Tim Fisher spoke about segregation in the schools in Monrovia and what life was like during that time period. Teens were shocked to hear that segregation existed in Southern California, and not just in the South. They asked many questions and came away with a different perspective of racism in the United States. Mr. Fisher encouraged teens to ask their parents about the history of their family and why they came to California. Outcomes include gaining a deeper perspective of segregation across the country during the 1950's, encouraging curiosity to learn more history of Monrovia and California, and inspiring interest in personal family history.

### **ADULT SERVICES REPORT**

On Saturday, February 11, library staff hosted a Miniature Garden Program. Over 70 enthusiastic participants created miniature gardens using a variety of repurposed containers, plants, and accessories. The library partnered with local business, Orchard Hardware, who generously donated pots, soil, and

plants. The program allowed the community to explore nature with an eye towards earth-friendly materials. The miniature gardens were a huge hit with patrons of all ages and showcased our community's creative spirit.

Speed-dating for adults 40+ was held on February 14 from 6-8pm. Speed-dating is an easy and entertaining event designed to help adults make friends, socialize, and have fun. Thirty-five attendees spent four minutes talking with each other to find a potential date. The program attracted new users to the library and was based on community requests received as a result of offering Speed-Dating for 20's and 30's in 2016.