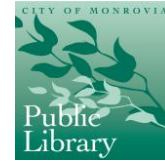




**CITY OF MONROVIA  
LIBRARY BOARD  
AGENDA REPORT**



DEPARTMENT: **Community Services,  
Library Division**

**MEETING DATE:** February 23, 2023

PREPARED BY: Stefanie Ulate,  
Adult Services Supervisor  
Ginger Antunez,  
Youth Services Supervisor

**AGENDA LOCATION:** CC-2

**ADULT SERVICES REPORT**

***Adult Programs***

Every Tuesday in January, staff hosted a *Tech Help* program for seniors to provide basic technology instruction and assistance. There were nine attendees total across the five sessions held. Attendees came prepared with specific questions to ask library staff. Many of the attendees requested assistance with creating an email account, sending text messages, downloading apps, and the basics of using a laptop. Staff worked with each attendee until they felt confident they could complete their desired technology task on their own.

On January 24, Adult Services staff hosted the monthly, hybrid (in person and virtual) *Novel T's Book Club*. A total of 13 members (11 in person, 2 virtual) participated in a group discussion of *The Lais of Marie de France* by Marie de France (Translated by Keith Busby & Glyn Burgess).

***Literacy Services***

In January, a total of 47 Learners and Tutors participated in six programs. Culture & Conversation and Book Club continue with hybrid (Zoom and In-Person) meetings. Staff provided a senior support workshop in partnership with Foothill Family for three participants to engage Learners in health literacy. Staff attended the Southern California Library Literacy Network's General Meeting this month.

***Veterans Services***

During the month of January, the Veterans Resource Center served a total of 90 veterans. County Veterans Service Officer (CVSO) 6; Veteran Peer Access Network (VPAN) 26; and VRC staff 58. This month, staff attended *Dismantling Inequities: Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in Volunteer Engagement* a workshop by the Minnesota Alliance for Volunteer Advancement (MAVA).

In January, staff arranged with *Soledier Socks*, to donate 240 pairs of socks for military veterans. *Soledier Socks* is a family owned company that donates one pair of socks to active military for every pair purchased. Each year staff seek donations for veterans in need on behalf of the American Legion Women's Auxiliary local Unit #830, a community partner.

**CC-2**

## **YOUTH SERVICES REPORT**

### ***Lunar New Year Event***

On Saturday, January 21, the library celebrated the Lunar New Year with a special tiger dance performance by students from Field Elementary in Pasadena. They had an energizing performance in front of the library for an engaging twenty minutes. Afterwards, families came inside for stories and crafts, such as an origami bookmark, dragon mask and Year of the Rabbit craft. We also had a display in the children's hallway with Lunar Information and book recommendations. A total of 150 caregivers and their children attended the event.

### ***Imagination Station***

Imagination Station made a comeback in January, with children between the ages of 4-8 participating in the two sessions on Thursday, January 12 and January 26. The first session involved cooking and baking. Children pretended to be bakers and learned vocabulary associated with baking and cooking. The second session participants were treated to a special community helper's storytime reading from Officer Nolasco's book, *Mr. Officer*. Children pretended to be doctors, nurses and first responders and help assist injured patients. A total of 60 caregivers and their children attended the events.

### ***Innovation Lab***

The Innovation Lab programs have continued into the New Year. The two programs in January drew an assortment of children between the ages of 6 and 11. The program attendees learned about a variety of STEAM-related subject matter, including, electricity and engineering. The library will continue to offer an assortment of STEAM programming for school-aged children to ensure they have enhanced experiences as well as access to new technology. A total of 40 caregivers and their children attended the events.

### ***Baby Storytime***

*Baby Storytime*, for families with young children aged 0-2, has continued into 2023. In anticipation of colder, wetter weather, the storytime programs were moved inside the library where song, rhymes, stories and activities were shared. Staff continue to remind parents of the benefits of talking, reading, singing, writing and playing for young developing minds. On Wednesdays, January 11, 18 and 25, families gathered to hear stories, sing and dance, practice movement, enjoy sensory activities, and make a craft. A total of 112 caregivers and children attended the storytime series in January.

### ***Storytime with the Park Naturalists***

On Saturday, January 14, the library and recreation staff collaborated once again to present another very special storytime at the library. Program attendees were treated to stories, songs and rhymes, along with an entertaining and informative presentation about animal senses by a Canyon Park Naturalist. To cap off the event, participants made crafts and were able to socialize with other attendees. Staff continue to revel in the opportunity to enhance experiences, access and partnerships within the community while showcasing the beautiful parks around Monrovia.

### ***Bilingual Storytime***

On Saturday, January 21, the library hosted its first Bilingual Storytime of the new year. The session began with learning colors in Spanish followed with songs, stories and finger plays all in Spanish and English. A total of 25 caregivers and their children attended the event.

### ***Max Lee Art***

On January 30, Max Lee Studio provided free beginner art lessons for children ages 6-12. This is the first session in a three part series. Pre-registration was required and spots filled quickly. Children were taught drawing using pencils and worked on shading techniques. A total of 20 children participated.

### ***LEGO Free Play***

On Saturday, January 28, the library hosted a Lego Free Play program. Over 80 attendees, including children between the ages of 1 and 13, along with a number of parents and caregivers came out for the two-hour event. The children used their creative skills and built an array of things during the program. Most importantly, the library is providing the children and families with an opportunity to develop fine motor skills, critically and creatively think, improve concentration and focus, problem solve, develop spatial skills and boost self-confidence. As a happy little accident, they also have fun and get to bond with their families and other members of the community. Staff are happy with the turnout and continue to receive positive feedback from the community for the program.

### ***Barks & Books***

In partnership with *Love on a Leash* and *Therapy Dogs International*, this program encourages literacy and helps strengthen reading confidence. Young children find it much easier to read aloud to a dog than they do their peers. With no judgement, no stress, and a positive experience, reading to a very special service animal helps young children interact and read while creating positive memories. Each participant received 10 minutes with the dog, which allowed for six participants during the program in January.

### ***Craft-tastic***

This creative program gives school-aged children a chance to make and take home projects they create from their imaginations. As families gather, they have access to an array of materials. Fall themed crafts were popular as colored leaves and sticks were available. A total of 85 participants were in attendance in January.

### ***Teen Report***

The Teen Advisory Board (TAB) meeting took place on January 9, in the Library Community Room and was led by the TAB Officer Board. During the meeting, TAB members received updates on volunteering in January and got to hear some encouraging words about community service from former TAB member Angel Hernandez. The teens signed up to help at the library's Saturday craft program, Imagination Station, Innovation Lab, and lots more. A total of 28 TAB members were in attendance.

### ***Teen Game Night***

The library held its first Teen Game Night on January 18. This program included Nintendo Switch games and board games for teens in 6th through 12th grade. Teens were encouraged to play together and share tips and tricks for the games. This program was a hit and many of the attendees and parents were asking when we would be holding the next one. A total of 10 teens attended this program.