Abington Township Public Library

Executive Director Report

October 24, 2019

Personnel and Library Business

Our latest infographic highlights the great work done by our Children's Department. Many thanks to our Statistics Committee for another outstanding result.

Continuing education opportunities this month included Power Library Training and attendance at a webinar on "Social Media Success: Reaching for Scalability." We recently subscribed to Hootsuite, and staff will be scheduling training through Hootsuite's academy.

I was the guest speaker at Immaculate Conception's lunch group last week, and they gave the Library a check as a thank you. Pat Seese, our former Head of Circulation, was there!

I am happy to report that we were awarded a grant from Jenkintown Rotary. I will pick up the check at next week's luncheon.

Adult programming this month included speakers on Suicide Prevention, How to Create a Podcast, an author talk, a cooking event, Socrates Café, Daytime Book Discussion Group, Decaffeinated and Unwired, Sunday's on Monday crossword group, and the Ruth and Robert Abel Book Discussion Group.

Information/Technology

Preparations for the switchover to the new network continue. Our online subscription resource vendors have been alerted to the fact that our IP address will change, and new IPs for Abington and Roslyn were provided. This will also affect the public, so we are spreading the information to them, as well. Crown Castle Fiber team were at Roslyn Branch Library three days last week. ENA (our new network provider) installed new routers and switches. Since we are one of the last libraries to switch over, (I assume because of our size and activity), we should encounter few of the problems faced by libraries that upgraded earlier.

We added the Tyler Arboretum to our Museum/Cultural passes this month.

Please take a moment to look at the fantastic job our reference staff is dong in creating pathfinders on various topics. Currently, our website (home page slide) features Hispanic Heritage Month. Past pathfinders included the following topics: Universe of Travel, Summer eReading, Business Resources and Back-to-School. Next up is a pathfinder on Cyber Security.

Hoopla continues to be very popular, and we have decided to increase the number of monthly checkouts from three to four on November 1, 2019.

Young Adult Programming included:

- Light Paint Photography (11 attendees)
- Beginners Chess (80 over four sessions)
- Creative Writing (8)
- Oreo Taste Test Challenge (30)
- Financial Aid (24)

Children's Department

Carolyn DuBois, Department Head, reports on recent programming:

- "Day With a Fish" presented by Abington School District teacher Charlene Crawford (15 attendees)
- Fall Story Times (70 attendees weekly)
- Kiwanis Drop-In Story Times (15)
- "Spreading Friendship" bracelet-making workshops (39)

Upcoming programs include "The Scream" Art Workshop, Fall Fun Day (on Election Day), Doggone Good Readers sessions, and "Frozen" Party in conjunction with the release of "Frozen 2."

Outreach efforts included visits to the Gerstadt Center (136) Head Start (46).

The department is merging its fiction series (such as American Girls, Encyclopedia Brown, and Hardy Boys) with the juvenile fiction collection. We hope the merge will be completed by the end of this year, along with the relocation of the remaining 424 items in the Parent/Teacher Collection to adult non-fiction.

Technical Services

Several staff attended two Cataloging Advisory Subcommittee meetings and one Database Committee meeting this month. The TS staff have begun cross training between roles within the department to promote efficiency during staff time off/vacations. TS staff is designing a department manual in order to create a more efficient workflow.

YTD, ATPL has cataloged 6,695 items, imported 1,508 new bibliographic records into the catalog, and withdrew 10,907 items from the collection.

ATPL has requested 384 items through interlibrary loan, and 209 of those requests were filled by non-MCLINC libraries throughout Pennsylvania. Conversely, ATPL has filled 573 interlibrary loan requests from non-MCLINC libraries.

Facilities

Steve Trader's report is attached.

Roslyn Branch

Recent programming at the Roslyn Branch included:

- Hand Dyed Silk Scarves (15 attendees, holding a second session on November 2)
- Friday Morning Play Dates (26)
- Baby Days (15)
- Preschool Mornings (15)

Meg Mitchell, Branch Head, represented the Branch at the Ardsley Family Day, where 30 families created a cornhusk doll, and over 150 people stopped by her table. She also provided story times to children at Almost Home Day Care (13) and at Ardsley Day Care (64).

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Hammeke Marshall, Executive Director