

Report to the Board

May, 2022

Alijah Fox: Adult and Teen Programming Librarian

Preteen programs

In May, I decided to move the preteen “after-school program” to Thursday afternoons so it wouldn’t continue conflicting with the children’s programs on Wednesdays. I think some folks are still getting used to it, but eventually, I expect our numbers to increase for those programs.

Teen programs

Our Teen Advisory Board has really gotten into the spirit of helping me around the library! They have created programs, helped run those programs, make book recommendations around the library, and taken initiative with the Summer Reading Program! A lot of these members will be volunteering around the library in the summer, helping with children’s programs, crafts, and anything else we may need them for.

The TAB hosted a Star Wars party on May 4th, and we had 16 kids participate! It was exceptional. The kids had lots of great ideas for various crafts, games, and snacks, and I think it went amazing. They are a great group of kids and I’m excited to see what else they can accomplish.

Our monthly meetings for groups (Rainbow Alliance and Anime Club) have had some dwindling attendance, so at our next TAB meeting, I will assess what needs to change. Sometimes things come in and out of style, so we will decide how to go forward from here.

Adult programs

Our program with the Regina A. Quick Center at St. Bonaventure went really well. They had a month-long exhibit in the gallery of Frida Kahlo and her works, and that was very popular. One of the staff members hosted a craft night where they created nichos, or memory boxes. Everyone seemed to have a great time!

We are anticipating a large crowd for our author visit on the 25th of May, Eric Pallant. He will discuss his research into the history of bread throughout civilization, as well as his experience with baking his own bread. It should be very interesting!

Our crafts have had very steady numbers recently, with lots of people being interested in Amy’s ideas. She will host another craft in June and then step back to help with the children’s crafts, so I will be stepping in to host some interesting ocean-themed crafts in conjunction with our Summer Reading Program. Hopefully we will have the same level of interest!

In June, we will be having some guest presenters come in and discuss various aspects of the Erie Canal. This is a free program through the Young Audiences of Western New York! They are having two different presenters come in during the month, completely free of charge. One is a band that will be performing songs about the Canal, and the other is a traveling museum exhibit, which will showcase various artifacts from the creation of the Canal. They should be super interesting! We are very lucky to have been approached by this group to have these free programs.