

Report to the Board

January, 2023

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After-school programs

Our Thursday after-school programs are picking back up in attendance after the holidays. We had four people attend LEGO club, and 6 people attend our Crafternoon. I believe that once people get back into their routines, we will continue to see an uptick in numbers! We did have someone ask about potentially bringing back a Pokemon club, so I will look into that and see if there is any other interest in hosting that once again.

Teen programs

The teens have returned in full force. We are steadily reaching 15-20 teens stopping into the teen room every single day to get a snack and play games with their friends. For the most part, they are quite well-behaved back there, albeit a bit loud! They continually ask us for a bigger space to play in, and better furniture. I am looking at some more sustainable options for chairs in the teen room, because the current bean bag chairs are not well-suited to the space.

Our teen holiday party had 15 teens attending. We had pizza and watched *Home Alone*. We always enjoy hosting these programs for the teens because some of them don't get to experience things like that outside of the library. Everyone had a great time, and we ended the night with some board games.

At our most recent Teen Advisory Board meeting, which saw 10 teens in attendance, the teens decided to replace our Rainbow Alliance with a Video Game Club. This was a decision we made because the teens have slowly stopped attending our Rainbow Alliance regularly. We believe this is due to the fact that there is a very successful GSA (Gay-Straight Alliance) club at the Olean high school. We are pivoting towards video games because they appeal to everyone and promote inclusion and diversity! We have a lot of different systems that the kids can play with, and we are hoping to attract some other teens that don't normally come to our programs with this different idea.

Our hide and seek, which is historically the most popular program that the library sees, had 28 teens in attendance. We were advertised on the 101.5 radio show earlier that day, and we were talked about on lots of other community forums and social media. Each time we host this program, it gets bigger, and we are thrilled about it. The teens are constantly asking when we can have the program again, and we are looking at different ways to mix it up.

Adult programs

The Brown Bag Book Club is still doing quite well, with a steady 5-6 members each month. We were recently asked via Facebook to host an evening book club, so I am looking into when that would work best and how to best go about it.

Our trivia night had a decrease in attendance in December, mainly because it was so close to the holidays, I believe. It should continue picking up in the next few months. We get a lot of requests about them.

We have a lot of interest in the canning class that the Cornell Co-op Extension is hosting! A lot of people have asked about it in person and on Facebook, as well as it getting attention on Twitter. We are also getting lots of questions about Fr. Dan Riley's book talk, which was rescheduled from November. Hopefully these should be some big events for the library!