

Report to the Board

March, 2023

Alijah Fox, Teen and Adult Programming Librarian

The after-school programs for kids are doing super well right now! Our most recent LEGO club saw 23 kids. They all keep telling their friends about the events and bringing more each time! Our first Pokemon club since Covid had 21 people in attendance, both kids and adults helping out. All the kids kept commenting how much they had missed it! We're expecting similar numbers this month.

Our movie programs have dropped off in attendance, so I will see about replacing it with something else in the near future. Some parents are concerned that their kids won't sit for an entire movie, which does make sense. The STEAM and craft programs are hit-or-miss, so in March we will be playing Bingo instead and see if kids enjoy that. It's great to be a spot that kids look forward to visiting after school.

The second meeting of our teen gaming club had 12 teens in attendance. They really enjoyed the game we played (Super Smash Bros for the Nintendo Switch) and they want a repeat for April! Chad, our IT librarian, found an old GameCube system in the IT office and he got that hooked up in case they wanted to play that as well.

Our most recent OTAB meeting brought in 8 teens, and each had great ideas about what to do for National Library Week in April, like creating a scavenger hunt throughout the library. They were all very excited to help out with programs to promote the budget vote as well, such as helping Kathy with kids' crafts. The teens are excited about National Poetry Month in April, too, so I am hoping to host some different activities to celebrate that.

The Dungeons & Dragons kids are as dedicated as ever about their sessions. They are constantly asking us for more meetings, more books, more opportunities to play.

March will be the first meeting of our new evening book club for adults! We had a few people mention the possibility on our Facebook page a while ago, so there is definitely interest in such a club. The first meeting will just be a meet-and-greet with people discussing their current reads and we will plan ahead from there.

The Brown Bag Book Club is still going strong. We have a dedicated group of people who attend each meeting (whether they liked the book or not) and we are constantly seeing new people. The most recent meeting had 7 people in attendance with a new member. It's lovely to hear everyone's opinions about how good (or bad) a book was.

Dan Jordan had a reception for his gallery exhibit early this month and about 50 people showed up for that. Everyone was so excited about his great work. That brought in a lot of people to read the newsletter, check out the Friends' book sale, and prepare for future programs.

Our monthly meditation program hasn't had too many people in attendance recently but the days always coincide with bad weather. The host, Elaine, and I are hopeful that the numbers will continue to increase as the winter starts to wind down. Anyone can attend any session. The most recent session saw a few adults as well as a little child who all had a great time.

Our program with poet John Rybicki is planned for March 29th at 7pm. This is the poet that will be visiting through the St. Bonaventure professor's grant. We are expecting a large turnout for this, as he is a well-known writer! Hopefully this will get even more people into the library.

Lastly, our craft programs have really been more popular than ever recently. The waiting list for our upcoming craft has 25 people on it! We're hoping to get some more supplies in to help get more people into the program.