

Report to the Board

July 2023

Alijah Fox, Teen and Adult Programming Librarian

“After-school” programs are staying quite consistent, even though there’s no school right now. We took the first week of July off and began again once Summer Reading started. We had 9 kids attend Pokemon Club last week, and I assume the numbers will remain steady throughout the next four weeks, especially since I have such a wide range of programs planned. These include slime class, trivia, LEGO club, and Bingo. It’s nice to still see them socializing throughout the summer!

The teen room has understandably had lower numbers in the last few weeks. There are a few teens that consistently show up every day, so we will continue to keep the teen room open as it is for now.

So far, our Wednesday night teen programs are still doing quite well. Cherish has a big Dungeons and Dragons “showdown” planned for the end of August, wherein her two teams will actually fight against each other! The kids are getting very excited for that.

Speaking of, Cherish recently used some of the Burt grant money to purchase a rolling, steel cart to hold her D&D items conveniently. It’s a lot easier than lugging a bunch of material back and forth from room to room. The cart was not too expensive and was not too difficult to put together. She is very satisfied with how well it keeps her things organized.

Our local Dungeon Master (DM), Brian, hosted his first adult D&D session not on a Saturday (because we are closed on Saturdays throughout the summer). He had it on a Wednesday night, and surprisingly, 8 people showed. It was the best turnout he’s had in a while! Brian sent me an itemized list of the things he uses his monthly fee for, just for our edification. Some of those things include purchasing maps, dice sets, and other things to immerse the players in the game. He also makes sure the game is completely accessible to all players, so there are things he has to purchase to make it easier for everyone to participate. We are very lucky he’s decided to host the game here so more people can experience all the library has to offer!

Our craft nights are still doing very well, despite no longer sending out the physical copy of the newsletter. Our most recent craft, done by SerenHippity, had 15 people in attendance. We are definitely still getting the word out about the programs. The painting classes Amy hosted in June have become the Gallery exhibit in July! It’s a wonderful mishmash of people’s work. Some of them are really quite impressive!

1 person attended my July meeting of the Night Owls Book Club and 6 attended the Brown Bag Book Club meeting. The numbers will improve as the summer winds down.

We are anticipating a large crowd for the book discussion this week. I’ve heard a lot of people discussing T.R. Sherlock and his book, so I’m sure it will be a packed house.

Summer Reading is in full swing now. So far, we've had 22 teens sign up and 35 adults. Those are lower numbers than usual, so we will continue to advertise the signups and hopefully get a bunch of people to stop in to the library. The teens have loved their weekly crafts so far, and while I haven't gotten too many people into the weekly movie yet, I think it will improve over the next month.

August has a lot of great programs coming up as well, like a classical guitarist visiting, a plant swap hosted by Amy, our annual Summer Reading Party for the teens, and lots of others. Hopefully we can keep the energy up for the rest of the summer!