

## Report to the Board

August 2023

Alijah Fox, Teen and Adult Programming Librarian

Summer Reading 2023 has come to a close! In total, we had 26 teens and 45 adults sign up for the program. Of those, 12 teens and 23 adults returned reading logs. They submitted a grand total of 431 books read in five weeks! We gave away one prize for adults (a Samsung tablet with a case) and three prizes for teens (three separate gift cards). I will work with Kathy O'Malley to fill out the necessary paperwork through CCLS and New York State so we can have our numbers counted.

After-school kids' programs in August had low attendance, probably due to the high probability of people being on vacation. Because there was no school, there was no incentive to come to the library. We will start those programs back up again once school starts, the week of Labor Day, and I am sure we will get as big a crowd as we usually do during the school year.

Teen programs are still going well, mostly with the same teens attending each one. The OTAB (Olean Teen Advisory Board) and I will be attending the Pride Coalition's Pride event in August as a group, and through this we are hoping to gain some more exposure to the local teen community.

The SRP crafts went quite well, with 3-6 coming to each event. It was five weeks of great, fun crafting with a good group of kids. Our SRP ending party was a success as well, seeing as it didn't rain while we were outside. You wouldn't know it, of course, by how wet the kids got with the water balloon fight.

Our Wednesday programs are still holding up well. Cherish is still planning out her D&D Showdown for the end of the month, but so far, we have a great group of teens signed up to play and watch.

Our book talk with T.R. Sherlock in July saw about 35 people in attendance. It was a great turnout, especially on a day with a huge thunderstorm in the forecast. Peter Fletcher's performance was fantastic, but only a handful of people showed, we think possibly because of another forecasted storm.

The evening Night Owls book club had 0 attendants in August, so I will give it a few more months and see if more people start coming back once school is back in session. If not, we will simply reevaluate and go from there. Brown Bag is still doing well, so I see no reason why an evening book club can't thrive, too.

The crafts in the remainder of August are shaping up to be great, with a lot of them already filling up. Tara Dedrick will be back to create another clay masterpiece, a painter from Arcade will be creating Bob Ross-themed paintings (because apparently you have to be certified in that!), and SerenHippity will be back to create a wonderful painted slate with a crowd.

That's not even mentioning the plant swap, the book talk with local poet Darrell Epp, trivia, and the gallery reception for the Arts Council group. August is a busy month, but it is shaping up to be great!