



**MEETING MINUTES
EVANSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Wednesday, June 21, 2017**

6:30 P.M.

Evanston Public Library, 1703 Orrington Avenue, Community Meeting Room

Members Present: Socorro Clarke, Tori Foreman, Adam Goodman, Shawn Iles, Margaret Lurie, Vaishali Patel, Benjamin Schapiro, Michael Tannen

Members Absent: Sandra Smith

Staff: Betsy Bird, Teri Campbell, John Devaney, Timothy Longo, Karen Danczak Lyons, Jill Schacter, Wynn Shawver, Jessica Ticus

Citizens Present: Gerald Adler, Leila Rabb, George Zrust, Elliot Zaskin, Dave Trippel, Tina Stevenson, Nancy Streenan, Timothea Papas, Katie Kuriyama, Liliana Fargo, Lori Keenan, Alyce Barry, J.B. Summers, Mary Rosinski, Bennet Johnson

Presiding Member: Michael Tannen, President

CALL TO ORDER/DECLARATION OF QUORUM - A quorum was present and President Tannen called the meeting to order at 6:34 pm. President Tannen opened by welcoming citizens present, stating his appreciation of their interest in learning about the mission of the Library and its commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion. He expressed his hope that "equity not be weaponized." Due to the large turnout he offered to extend citizen comment time beyond 15 minutes and asked people to be concise.

CITIZEN COMMENT Gerald Adler proposed a referendum process for the development of the surface lot adjacent to the Library. Leila Rabb voiced her concern that the disciplinary action involving Lesley Williams was not transparent and praised Ms. Williams' public programs as enabling the community to learn about issues not covered in the press. George Zrust voiced his support of Lesley Williams and her programs. Elliot Zaskin supports Lesley Williams and questioned how the Library allocates resources. Dave Trippel is a member of Neighbors for Peace and is concerned about the polarization of society. Tina Stevenson praised Lesley Williams' programs at the Levy Center and questioned the Board's treatment of Ms. Williams. Nancy Streenan supports Lesley Williams and questioned why the Board eliminated term limits for themselves. Timothea Papas is another supporter of Lesley Williams voicing her concerns about the Board. Katie Kuriyama read a letter from the Rev. Debra Bullock, the rector of St. Mark's Episcopal Church of Evanston, outlining their efforts to

undertake an independent equity audit to create change in their parish. Liliana Fargo of Evanston Justice Team and Open Communities called on the Library for a formal equity plan. Lori Keenan of the Evanston Public Library Friends spoke on behalf of the Library and the Friends' long history of championing for the library branches and Michael Tannen's historic involvement as a Friends volunteer in bringing books to all corners of Evanston. Alyce Barry from OPAL spoke about the unconscious bias of white citizens. J.B. Summers spoke in support of Lesley Williams. Mary Rosenski, of Evanston Public Library Friends, praised the Board as committed volunteers. Bennett Johnson, a long-time civil rights activists, recommended that people direct their anger to the "flawed system" rather than individuals.

Lori Kennan shared a YouTube video that had been produced to highlight the importance of building a branch library to serve the west side of Evanston:

https://youtu.be/pul_nb5NLDI

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of the Minutes of May 17, 2017 Regular Meeting and Approval of Bills and Payroll** –Ben Schapiro motioned to approve the minutes of the May Regular Meeting and the May Bills and Payroll. Margaret Lurie seconded and it was approved on a voice vote.

INFORMATION/COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Introduction of Pat Efiom, Equity and Empowerment Coordinator**–tabled until July meeting.
- B. Introduction of Teri Campbell** – Library Director Karen Danczak Lyons introduced the new Assistant Director Teri Campbell.
- C. Robert Crown Branch Library Update** –Karen Danczak Lyons reported that the architects are developing plans and will be sharing them at the Board meeting in July or August. The library project remains on track for bidding, construction and opening in Fall 2019. It will provide a library branch on the west side that is bigger than the North Branch and CAMS combined

LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- A. Director's Report**- Director Danczak Lyons reported that the State's emergency stop gap budget session is scheduled to end June 30th. If there is a three year property tax freeze, the Library's tax revenue will remain the same while unionized labor costs, which are contracted to increase, will force the Library to make difficult budget cuts to programs and services. Ms. Danczak Lyons informed Board members that the City of Evanston email platform is being transitioned from the old server to a new one and they may experience some

issues with emails during the upgrade. The protocol for email on the new server is: first [initial followed by the lastname@cityofevanston.org](mailto:initial.lastname@cityofevanston.org).

- B. Evanston Public Library and Equity of Access, Diversity and Inclusion –** Director Danczak Lyons stated that the Library is absolutely and continuously committed to meeting the diverse expectations of all of Evanston. She discussed the plan to implement an “assessment” of access, diversity and inclusion. An “audit,” which measures outcomes such as learning by race or ethnicity, is not applicable in a library where patrons are not tested and demographic information is not collected. This issue is being addresses at a national level by the library profession, the American Library Association and Public Library Association. Details of the Library’s framework for moving forward are found in the attached power point from Ms. Danczak Lyons’ presentation.

STAFF REPORT

- A. Administrative Services Report –** The Library is moving forward to fill vacancies. Over two-thirds of the staff at the Library are part-time employees.
- B. Collections and Development-** Tim Longo, Technical Services Manager, gave an overview of the collection holdings at the Main Library and Branches, the collection highlights - which include an increasing number of foreign language materials and digital catalogs of material at the Evanston History Center and Shorefront Collections - as well as a breakdown of the budget and how it is allocated. Betsy Bird, Collections Development Manager, described the criteria for selecting materials for purchase, which includes a process for patrons to request books for purchase. She discussed how we can improve Patron Driven Acquisition by making it easier to make requests online as well as in person. The Library is also looking at renting best-sellers so there are multiple copies of best-sellers during the height of their popularity. This could save money and allow the Library to expand collections in other areas. The power point of this presentation is attached.

BOARD REPORTS

- A. Development Committee –**Tabled until July meeting.

BOARD DEVELOPMENT Board members are invited to the ALA Annual Meeting in Chicago, June 22-27, where there are several sessions for trustees.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Honoring Mayor Tisdahl-** President Tannen read a proclamation honoring former Mayor Elizabeth Tisdahl. A fund to help Evanston residents and Library employees pursue a Masters of Library Science degree is being

- named in her honor. This tribute will help aspiring librarians and potentially increase the number of librarians of color.
- B. Honoring Alderman Holmes-** Alderman Holmes was unable to attend the meeting due to illness. President Tannen announced that a space at the new Robert Crown Branch Library will be named in her honor. Alderman Holmes will be honored at the July Board meeting.
 - C. Review of Board Calendar –** The Board reviewed the calendar for meetings for the remainder of 2017 and made no changes.
 - D. Approval of MyMediaMall Governance -** MyMediaMall is an online platform shared by a consortium of libraries which allows patrons to download free ebooks and audiobooks. The Board unanimously approved the signing of their governance contract.
 - E. Approval of Public Relations Consultant Agreement –** Ben Schapiro motioned to approve the temporary part-time writer to produce the Library newsletter, press releases and other communications during the FMLA leave of a Library staff member. Seconded by Socorro Clarke and approved by roll call vote.
 - F. Approval of Communications Planning Consultant Agreement –** Shawn Iles moved to approve the consultant contract with Steve Johnson for assistance in marketing the Library; seconded by Tori Foreman and approved by roll call vote.
 - G. Approval of Vending Machine Purchase –** Ben Schapiro moved to approve the purchase of lending library vending machine for installation at Robert Crown Community Center. Seconded by Shawn Iles and approved on a roll call vote.
 - H. Approval of Main Library Weatherproofing –** The Facilities Committee recommended moving forward with the contract in the amount of \$287,330 with April Building Services to weatherproof the exterior of the Main building. A motion to approve the contract was made by Ben Schapiro, seconded by Tori Foreman and approved on a roll call vote. President Tannen reminded the Board that we are once again committing the Library budget to the maintenance of City property.
 - I. Vanguard Signature Account –** Ben Schapiro moved to add the new Assistant Director, Teri Campbell, to the Vanguard account. Seconded by Vaishali Patel and approved by roll call vote.
 - J. Freedom of Information Act Request Processing –** the Board discussed appointing a Library staff member to process any FOIA requests and asked Karen Danczak Lyons to investigate the feasibility.

CLOSED SESSION – Michael Tannen read the official language for convening a Closed Executive Session for personnel matters and to approve the minutes from past

closed sessions. Second by Ben Schapiro, and approved by a unanimous roll call vote. The Board moved into Closed Session at 9:00 p.m.

RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION – The Board returned to open session at 10: 21 pm.

ADJOURNMENT –Ben Schapiro motioned to adjourn the meeting at 10:25 pm, seconded by Adam Goodman and approved by voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Vaishali Patel, Secretary

Next Meeting: Wednesday, July 19, 2017 at 6:30 pm Evanston Public Library, Community Meeting Room.

**Library Director's Report
June 21, 2017**

Updates:

- Falcon update: Unfortunately the two falcons that hatched did not survive. Our Scientist Mary Hennen has shared that it is not unusual for a new breeding pair to fail to produce any eggs in the first year. On June 29th at 11:00 Mary Hennen will be signing her new book "The Peregrine Returns: The Art and Architecture of an Urban Raptor Recovery". Books will be available for purchase.
- Update from Springfield: The emergency stop gap session is scheduled to end June 30th.

The four areas that will have a definite effect if passed on our Library and community over the next two to three years will be:

- 1) Property Tax Freeze – 3 Years – No new income. Budget Stays at current income rate.
 - 2) State Income Tax Rate Increase 5.25 % -
 - 3) Business Income Tax Increase – 7% from 5.25 % - 1.75% Increase
 - 4) Increase to \$15 of the minimum wage that passed both house but needs Governor Rauner's signature.
- My thanks to the wonderful Book Sale volunteers for another successful sale - \$10, 837 was raised.

Outcomes: Work selected from the reports contained herein are offered here as examples of the approaches taken to support the pillars of our Strategic Plan and our commitment to Equity, Diversity and Inclusion. These highlights are illustrative. Direct connections to our strategic plan could be provided to each example of the work reported by our team of dedicated, talented and innovative team.

NOTE: Outcomes highlighted refer to the pillars of our Strategic Plan [Access, Engagement, Learning and Literacy and Innovation] and our commitment to Equity, Diversity and Inclusion.

- As we prepared for our Summer Reading Program staff created an array of programs for readers of all ages to support their *Learning and Literacy*. By bringing the Summer Reading Program outside the walls of the library to where our families and children already gather for the summer, we provide more convenient *Access and Engage our residents*.
- Miguel Ruiz developed, hosted, and co-sponsored an immigration panel event, titled "Assisting Evanston's Immigrant and Undocumented Community," with DearEvanston and Evanston4All Interfaith Action Team. With 100+ participants, the event discussed relevant policy, legal and mental health issues affecting Evanston residents. Along with the Outcome that Miguel stated below, this work demonstrates our work in support of *Innovation and Equity, Diversity and Inclusion*.

- *Outcome:* Increased Evanston direct service providers' knowledge of immigration issues, through panelist presentation as well as extensive, in-depth, and tailored binder resources. Assisted in positioning EPL as a welcoming institution.
- As reported by Heather Norborg, our bi-lingual Technology Trainer Eduardo Gomez taught 9 technology classes outside the library at King Arts Lab School, and at Family Focus, Blake and Primm Towers. This outreach supports *Access, Learning and Literacy, Engagement and Equity, Diversity and Inclusion.*

Assessments, metrics and initiative results:

Foot traffic: April, 2017 May, 2017

Main:	41,249	40,502
North:	4,058	3,815
CAMS:	3,440	3,638
Total:	48,747	47,955

Website visits: April: 44,632 May: 43,173

Overall Computer/Internet Use – all locations: February: 4,770 March: 4,787

Wi-Fi usage: 26,957

**Actual Computer Usage
NEW AND REPEAT CUSTOMERS**

Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	TOTALS
1-May	2-May	3-May	4-May	5-May	38
9	11	8	3	7	
8-May	9-May	10-May	11-May	12-May	
10	10	4	5	12	41
15-May	16-May	17-May	18-May	19-May	
14	13	15	7	10	59
22-May	23-May	24-May	25-May	26-May	

9	7	8	10	6	40
29-May	30-May	31-May			
	12	7			19
					197

Partnerships and collaborations:

- My thanks to Betsy Bird, Heather Norborg and the entire EPL team for supporting the Digital Bookmobile’s visit to Evanston on June 12th. Over 40 visitors toured the Bookmobile when the vehicle was parked at the main library and more than 30 visitors toured the Digital Book Mobile while we were parked at Over the Rainbow. We thank Alderman Rue Simmons and the staff and residents of Over the Rainbow for their support and warm welcome. The new Digital Bookmobile is the creation of the Library Vendor OverDrive. Staff from OverDrive was excited to share the features on the Bookmobile and were happy when three patrons in wheelchairs were able to easily navigate the various stations simultaneously as they learned about the features of the OverDrive application and services.

Highlights from Children’s Services from Jan Bojda and the team include:

Tinkerarten Class

Meyer recruited Annie Sutula and Jessica Patton of Tinkergarten in Evanston to offer the library a free class in exchange for the publicity of registration in our newsletter. She read books to the class. She enjoyed learning about Tinkergarten classes. Children’s activities: “fished” with sticks and magnets for ball jar cans, then they had a circle time to learn about animal babies, then they made animal babies out of rice and clean white socks. Anne and Jessica set up the room for baby activities – feeding them (pinecones, leaves, grass etc. ...), putting them to bed, bringing them to “the playground”. The play was different than it would have been outdoors, but they followed the basic principal of free play with imaginative guidelines that encourage kids to create. A great class. Meyer received a number of compliments from the parents. Meyer says, “The kids’ cuddling with their Forest Babies was enough thanks for me!”

Feeding Station



Here are the kids (with parents' help) filling their socks with rice to make their Forest Babies; (some kids just loved the sensory play so much, they never left the rice station).



Here is young child decorating her Forest Baby.



Here is a child learning about simple machines by giving her Forest Baby a ride!



Here is a child cuddling her baby before putting her down for a nap:



Another highlight was an event that came to us through the **Evanston Literary Festival**. The author of a book on Lego Stop Motion Animation presented a program on Stop Motion Animation. He also had books for sale and autographing. Jessica Iverson hosted and coordinated this event. A thank you from a participant and photos are below.

Outreach and Community Engagement:

From Kennelly:

There was an amazing show of outreach at about 10 am on May 2 when four staff members presented story times: Kim Kaufmann presented to a School for Little Children class. Brian Wilson worked with a group from Total Child. Laura traveled to the Hill Center for a program with Learning and Growing while Leigh Kennelly gave a K tour including story time and craft project to a Park School class.

We are a very busy Children's services department here at Evanston Public Library.

Of course, as always more Outreach and Community Engagement in Laura Antolin's report

Other Activities:

Staff attended training on Readsquared. There is a lot of oversight necessary to keep things on track. Staff organized and prepped prizes. Volunteers also worked on some projects for summer. We also had a number of staff on vacation for periods of time meaning more service desk hours for the full-time staff and schedule changes for many of us to guarantee coverage.

Highlights from Laura Antolin – Children's Outreach include:

Outreach/In-House Reach - Preschools:

Day Care Delivery Book Bags: 19: 15 Book Bags delivered to home providers; **4** Book Bags delivered to IWSE (2 to Baby Toddler Nursery; 2 to Teen Baby Nursery)

Baby Toddler Nursery story time: Total: 74 (60 children and 14 staff); 7 classes- infants, toddlers, preschoolers

Teen Baby Nursery story time: Total: 17 (12 children and 5 staff); 2 classes – infants, toddlers

Learning & Growing story time: Total: 13 (7 children, 5 adults, 1 staff)

I brought materials to make butterflies (foam craft) and flowers (tissue paper, contact paper and straws) and we read *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* and books about flowers growing.

STEM at Doorway to Learning (Family Center): Total: 22 (16 kids, 6 staff)

This was the last of 4 STEM programs for 2 Doorway to Learning classrooms – the 2-3 year olds and the 15-23 months to align programming with the Head Start, PFA classes. The program was about levers and was modified from the program for the 3-5 year olds. The children practiced using tongs and tweezers to pick up cotton balls, pom poms and pieces of straw and moving them from one container to another. They also practiced cutting paper and craft foam with appropriate scissors (though only a couple of kids in the younger classroom held the scissors). At the end, I attached 2 spoon catapults to the ends of a small table and launched foam blocks – many of the children tried to do this, too. The teachers and the children were very engaged.

These have been very successful at introducing different STEM concepts to these really young children and Angela Johnson has asked that I bring 8 monthly programs to the Family Center next year, as well. I will likely repeat programs for these younger children.

LEAP at Doorway to Learning (Family Center): Total: 22 (16 kids, 6 staff)

This was the last of 4 LEAP programs for 2 Doorway to Learning classrooms – the 2-3 year olds and the 15-23 months to align programming with the Head Start, PFA classes. We played Laundry for this final session. I read *Ms. McNosh Hangs Up Her Wash* by Sarah Weeks and modeled playing Laundry. The children did little sorting but did a lot of washing and repeat washing and sequencing and several worked on hanging up clothes on the clothesline using the clothespins. The teachers and the children enjoyed the play.

LEAP has worked well in a modified way in these classrooms and has been successful at giving these really young children the opportunity to practice some early literacy skill building. Angela Johnson has asked that I bring 8 monthly LEAP programs to the Family Center next year, as well. I will definitely repeat programs for these younger children.

Exploring STEAM w/Ms. Laura at JEH: Total: 22 (11 children, 10 adults, 1 staff)

Since we didn't see a lot of the families who usually attend Exploring STEAM in April, we decided to repeat the "lava lamp" activity and to add some other chemical reaction activities in our last Exploring STEAM in May – expanding a balloon using vinegar and baking soda; erupting playdough (making playdough using baking soda) and dropping a ball of it into a cup of vinegar; and also experimenting with those materials in a plastic bag. We also decided to do all of these activities outside which were really fun though a bit windy. We had a lot of participation and were thanked by all of the parents for the year's programs.

Exploring STEAM w/Ms. Laura at JEH – Lava lamps and chemical reactions



PACT Activity at JEH: Total: 20 (10 children, 9 adults, 1 staff)

I read books about plant and planting, we sang songs and the families worked together to decorate small pots and to plant vegetable/flower seeds.

PACT Activity- JEH



Book Buddies in May:

Total: 119 (75 children; 11 staff, 33 NU students)

Book Buddies at Reba Early Learning Center: Total: 25 (16 children, 3 staff, 6 NU students)

- We had 1 final session of Book Buddies in May at Reba
- I bring 2 bags of books for use by the Book Buddies in the classroom; I read and sing with the children, they read with their NU Book Buddies and then do a craft.

Book Buddies at Learning Bridge Early Education Center: Total: 94 (59 children, 8 staff, 27 NU students)

- We had 4 sessions of Book Buddies in May at Learning Bridge
- I bring 2 bags of books for use by the Book Buddies in the classroom; I read and sing with the children, they read with their NU Book Buddies and then do a craft.

Outreach/In-House Reach – School-Aged:

Fleetwood K-1st Afterschool: Total: 8 (8 kids)

We finished the year by making lava lamps.

Fleetwood 2nd-3rd Grade Afterschool: Total: 8 (8 kids)

We finished the year by making lava lamps.

Washington Afterschool K-5th grade: Total: 36 (32 kids, 2 staff members)

We finished the year by making lava lamps.

Robert Crown After School Adventures: Total: 24 (20 kids, 4 staff members)

We made slingshots using cups, pencils, rubber bands and we shot ping pong balls. I returned another day to collect more books that had been returned.

Y.O.U. Elementary School Book Check-outs

This year we circulated approximately 180 books each month from October –March to Y.O.U. sites at Dawes, Oakton, Walker and Washington Schools. Although there was some loss of books in this pilot year (about 3%), we are working to develop a better and more standardized practice for next year. We may move to every other month book circulation in some sites. All in all, however, the students and the staff appreciated the effort it took to bring books each month for students to select, check out and read at Y.O.U. afterschool programs.

D65 Summer Learning:

I've been working with Jamilla Pitts and Ellen Urquiagua to firm up our Summer Learning program with 120 rising 3rd graders and their families. These families were identified for this program based on the need for support. They will have the opportunity to visit the library in groups (based on which schools they attend) on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays beginning June 6 with free bus service provided

by D65 for the months of June and July. There will also be buses on Sundays during the months of June and July. The buses will allow families to visit the library for an hour.

Four of these weeks will include short programming at the Library as well as Summer Reading Program sign-up. Teachers/librarians from each school participating will meet them at the library during these four weeks to help make the school-public library connection and I will be present on these dates to help connect families to the library and to the Children's room staff. Our hope is that families will begin to build a habit of coming to the library and seeing the library as a destination but also be introduced to and become comfortable with library staff in the Children's room as a result of this program.

D65 Newcomers:

Andrea Mishkin, D65 teacher, reached out to me about D65's program for newcomers this summer. They will be instructing their students using poetry and have asked that we support them by providing poetry books for their units of instruction based on levels and themes. I will be gathering books for them for their 5 week classes starting on June 12.

Other/Connections:

IMLS STEMEx grant program:

Balloon Powered Car Engineering Challenge Total: 4 families (7 children)

We held our second set of STEMEx expert programs, *Balloon Powered Car Challenge* (Nicolas Prieto Martinez) on Thursday, May 25, at Fleetwood from 6:30-8:00pm. I asked Jill Schachter to help promote the program via D65 e-backpacks as well as in the newsletter, put out flyers, and also reached out to Kirby Callam and Colette Allen asked them to contact families. We had 4 families participating with 7 children.

The program proved to be very challenging for all of the families – there wasn't time to stop in the middle for Nicolas to offer a narrative but he walked around the room and talked individually to families all evening. There also wasn't time to build multiple cars though families made changes based on performance throughout the evening. Some of the materials proved difficult to work with and so we will make modifications and changes before the next iteration on June 14. The program also ran about 30 minutes longer than planned because families really wanted to produce a car that worked. I was impressed by the fortitude of the families that participated and the interest. Parents did a lot of the work but mostly in consultation with their children. One family attending with one parent and two kids, produced 2 cars with one worked on entirely by the child until the very end. I also connected with Steven Pasimeni, an engineer who Renee and I met at the Volunteer/Donor event, and invited him to attend this program, which he did. Steven is interested in our STEAM/STEM programming and in the reach of this grant. He and I are arranging to get together in early June.

I'm working with Julie Cowan on a program in late August and have reached out to several other experts for future programs.

STEMeX Engineering Challenge 5-25-17 (1st program)



EC2C SEED Training:

I attended the second monthly 3-hour training for Seeking Educational Equity & Diversity. In preparation, we read *Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack* and talked a lot about white privilege. The trainings involve watching short videos, writing responses and journaling and a lot of talking one on one, in small groups and group impressions.

<https://nationalseedproject.org/white-privilege-unpacking-the-invisible-knapsack>

Free Comic Book Day: Total: 75 (or more)

We always get a big, eager, diverse crowd for Free Comic Book Day! I set up and hang around to take photos and send them to families and to Comix Revolution. We are usually out of comic books by about 11:30am or 12:00pm and this year was no exception. Like last year, I requested and chose comics to go to North Branch and to CAMS.

Free Comic Book Day



Summer Reading Program promotional video:

Kim and I created, developed and filmed another Little Book video to promote the Summer Reading Program. I reached out to D65 librarians to participate and was glad to have gotten photos from almost everyone to include in the video. We're hopeful that we'll have even more participation this year.

Summer Reading Program camp groups:

I spent a good deal of time this month working on schedules and logistics (and in a few cases, am still working on) to bring the Summer Reading Program to Robert Crown summer camps, Fleetwood Jourdain summer camps, Ridgeville summer camps (including the 2 camps for 8-12 year olds this year), Y-Readers at Washington and Foster Reading Center, Power Scholars at Oakton and Kingsley, Family Focus, and Y.O.U. at Lincoln school. I created flyers for parents of students at Y-Readers and Power Scholars, modified for Ridgeville and Y.O.U. in order to let families know that their kids are participated in EPL's SRP while at camp. I spoke briefly to the YMCA teaching staff so that they're clued in early, as well. I'm arranging to visit the camps and do a really short SRP intro so that when I return, everyone is expecting me. I'm sure we'll make changes next summer but I do feel that with each summer, the process becomes smoother and better.

ABC Boosters:

In preparation for ABC Boosters to start up, I've been following up with Nzinga West at YJC, Lindsay Percival (Director at Learning Bridge Early Education Center), Jessie Block at JEH, Brianna Jenkins at Fleetwood-Jourdain, and Lara Galicia and Frances Collins to make sure trainings are set and that we're all on the same page to begin work the week of June 12.

Teen Services Highlights from Renee Neumeier include:

Summer Reading:

- Jill Schacter and Don Westphal delivered the summer reading booklets to all of the D65 schools and all of the private schools in Evanston
- Kim Kaufmann and Laura Antolin create a short movie to promote summer reading at the local elementary schools
- Renee Neumeier and Julia Pyatetsky presented on the summer reading program, summer programs and great books to checkout this summer from the D65 recommended list at Haven, Nichols, Chute, Bessie Rhodes and King Arts. There were 48 visits total.
- All staff completed training on Read Squared, Renee Neumeier and Kim Hiltwein put together instructions for all public desks
- Booklets were dropped off at Fleetwood Jourdain; Robert Crown, Levy Center, Family Focus, Noyes Cultural Center, Curt's Cafe north and south, Church St. Barber Shop, Civic Center, Supreme, Cutting Edge, Ridgeville, Y.O.U. and other locations throughout Evanston

Teen Services Highlights:

Grants:

- Renee Neumeier worked with CIERA from Northwestern on completing the ALL HANDS grant application for the National Science Foundation. Here is a brief overview: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B9PyWfcn2HaJSHpWVXV0TndUYTRQUWVJdjVqRk9zU3Y1VEQw/view?usp=sharing>

Programming:

Let's Talk Evanston Teens and EPD:

- In partnership with JusBelieve, Inc. and EPD the Loft hosted a program where teens from Evanston could learn more about the Evanston Police officers and also ask them questions. Youth from JustBelieve, Inc. moderated part of the event, asking questions about why the officers wanted to be policemen or women, what they enjoyed most about their jobs, the schooling and the schooling and qualifications needed to be a police officer. The officers then answered questions from the teens some questions related to how the police handle different situations or different experiences they've had. The police also asked the teens about negative experiences that they may have had with police. The teens and officers discussed how and why situations were handled in a specific way and how all parties involved could approach things differently in the future. Eric, a teen who regularly hangs out in the Loft, said that he really liked the program. He grew up being told that the police were bad people, but after talking to the EPD officers he realized that cops are just people too and may not be so bad. About 35 teens attended the program.

Hack-a-Thon:

- Students from the ETHS Youth Technology Corps led a four hour session on Arduinos. They showed teens robots and projects they had made with Arduinos and worked with the teens to create their own projects. YTC provided pizza, snacks and prizes for the projects the teens put together. The event was enjoyed by attendees and the YTC members.

Community Engagement and Outreach:

LGBTQai+

- Kevin Kelley has continued to make connections in the community in order to prepare for the launch of EPL's Gender and Sexuality Alliance this summer. This month Kevin met with staff from Y.O.U., Response and the Illinois State School Alliance. Kevin also met with the GSA at ETHS and got a lot of feedback and ideas from them ranging from programming ideas, to community engagement ideas and how to engage other Evanston youth. The GSA will have two meetings a month. One meeting will have an outside presenter who will discuss LGBTQai+ issues, or talk about programming and services available to them. The other sessions will be led by teen services staff or GSA members.

Kevin is hoping that some of the high school students he met at the ETHS GSA may be interested in taking on a leadership role at EPL in our GSA.

Y.O.U.

- Student from Y.O.U.'s middle school program will be coming to the Loft Wednesdays throughout the summer to take part in a Little Bits program. Teen services staff we'll be developing challenges for the group each. We're really excited

D65:

- Participated in Innovation Fair that D65 hosted at Y.O.U. was able to connect with D65 staff and community members about the STEM resources and other teacher services available at EPL.

Professional Development:

- Teen services staff attended restorative justice training through EPD or watched a YALSA webinar on restorative justice in libraries. We believe that some of the approaches from restorative justice would work well in the Loft. Like using conferencing or peace circles as needed the YALSA webinar can be viewed here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iDcSxRthBig&feature=youtu.be&t=1s>
- Julia Pyatetsky attended the Beyond Diversity training offered by Cradle to Career. Julia noted that "Beyond Diversity training was an experience that I believe everyone at EPL can benefit from. I already knew about the disparity in privilege that exists between races, but it was made even more apparent by this training. It was eye-opening and forced everyone to really look at things that are uncomfortable, particularly in issues of oppression. It helped bring about compassion for others, but also for myself."

Renee Neumeier/YA Services Supervisor's Personal Report:

Programming:

- Prepared for and led TAB meeting, stickered all the Y.O.U. Everybody Reads Books , based on their topic
- Worked with Julia to plan out Loft Lab and Teen DIY for June

Community Engagement:

ETHS:

- Working with Traci Brown Powell to run some summer sessions of her ETHS book group at the Loft or at other community locations. Looking at best days, times and titles for students interested
- Provided books for Women's Empowerment Conference
- Working with reading specialist on helping plan and provide books for ETHS freshmen read of The Drowned City.

D65:

- Presented book talks to teachers at Haven, focusing on great reads for the summer, demonstrated how padlet can be used in their classrooms with Haven librarian, Amy Odwarka .

- Prepared book talks and presentations for Chute, Nichols and Haven, about 30 book talks created, did 38 presentations. Presentations went well this year. Book talked with Amy Odwarka at Haven.
- Continue to work on developing curriculum for summer camp with D65 math coach Kelly Rooney. Have students signed up from Chute Middle School, several from the ELL program and Nichols middle school.
- Park School visited twice, prepared activities for them. They really enjoyed making Shrinky Dinks for Mother's Day gifts.

Y.O.U.

- Met with Y.O.U. staff to discuss summer programming. Y.O.U. will bring 10-15 students to EPL each week from mid-June through the beginning of August. We're excited that the students will be coming to the Loft all summer.

EvanSTEM:

Makerspace Group:

- EvanSTEM called together all of the people involved with existing or soon to be existing makerspaces or maker programming in Evanston to talk about how we can connect all of our efforts
- Some of the spaces are in school and others are in out of school spaces
- We're hoping to create pathways between all of the spaces and between classes that can be taken at school and that projects or interests started at school can be completed in these spaces

Summer Reading:

- Setup all of the Read Squared trainings
- Wrote draft of procedures for read squared
- Got all of the prizes for teen summer reading together
- Wrote up procedures and signs for booklet counting and packing

Restructuring:

- Began looking at data from task form and how it will affect future staffing, programming and streamlining. Saw a need for more efficient event promotion from entering events to creating posters and other promotional materials.

Professional Development:

- Working on planning the July Tinker meeting
- Viewed Restorative Justice webinar- notes:
<https://docs.google.com/a/cityofevanston.org/document/d/1-f19wLjPamm16FQKokTIgHA6oqMYBIu23Cw7oLjkRgo/edit?usp=sharing> I thought this webinar was very interesting. I hope we can implement some of the ideas like conferencing after an event here. I also think doing peace circles after a big issue with teens and their parents/guardians would be helpful. As we're looking at all of security policies it would good to see how these practices may fit in.

Community Outreach highlights from Jill Skwerski includes:

- Along with the many informational sessions provided by our partners: Connections for the Homeless, HIRCULES Health Hub, City of Evanston General Assistance, Affordable Care Act Navigators and the Evanston Vet Center, the Book Bike is back on the Road visiting farmer's markets and weekend fairs throughout the City of Evanston. Please check our calendar for a list of locations and stop by to check out a book, get a new library card and just to say hello.

From Miguel Ruiz, here are highlights from Latino Engagement:

May Monthly Report: Latino Outreach

May efforts were directed towards the planning and hosting of Evanston Public Library's first Latina/o *On the Table Conversation* as well as our first immigration panel presentation.

- Participated in the Cradle To Career Community Dinner, along with Karen Danczak Lyons and Michael Tannen, to discuss community challenges, opportunities, and moving forward in Evanston's collective impact efforts.
- Planned and hosted EPL's first bilingual (English/Spanish) *On the Table* conversation, based on the Chicago Community Trust Framework. With help from the Community Engagement Librarian (who hosted an *On the Table* conversation in 2016), the library hosted 25 Latina/o community leaders to discuss challenges and opportunities facing Evanston's Latina/o residents.
 - *Outcome:* The development of monthly community leader conversations to be held at alternating locations with the goal of building collaborations, discussion, and focused efforts to empower the Latina/o community.
- Participated in the Latino Coalition for Healthy Aging Networking Group to create connections on topics facing our Latina/o senior citizen communities.
 - *Outcome:* Established a small network of individuals and organizations working on Latina/o mental and physical health issues in the Chicago metro area, with potential workshop and event partnerships to be hosted at EPL.
- Began participation in an Evanston SEED cohort with 20+ community members; a peer-led professional development program that creates conversational communities to drive personal, organizational, and societal change toward greater equity and diversity.
 - *Outcome:* Ongoing: Professional development to increase personal capacity in understanding and engaging with issues of equity and diversity.
- Developed, hosted, and co-sponsored an immigration panel event, titled "Assisting Evanston's Immigrant and Undocumented Community," with DearEvanston and Evanston4All Interfaith Action Team. With 100+ participants, the event discussed relevant policy, legal and mental health issues affecting Evanston residents.
 - *Outcome:* Increased Evanston direct service providers' knowledge of immigration issues, through panelist presentation as well as extensive, in-depth, and tailored binder resources. Assisted in positioning EPL as a welcoming institution.

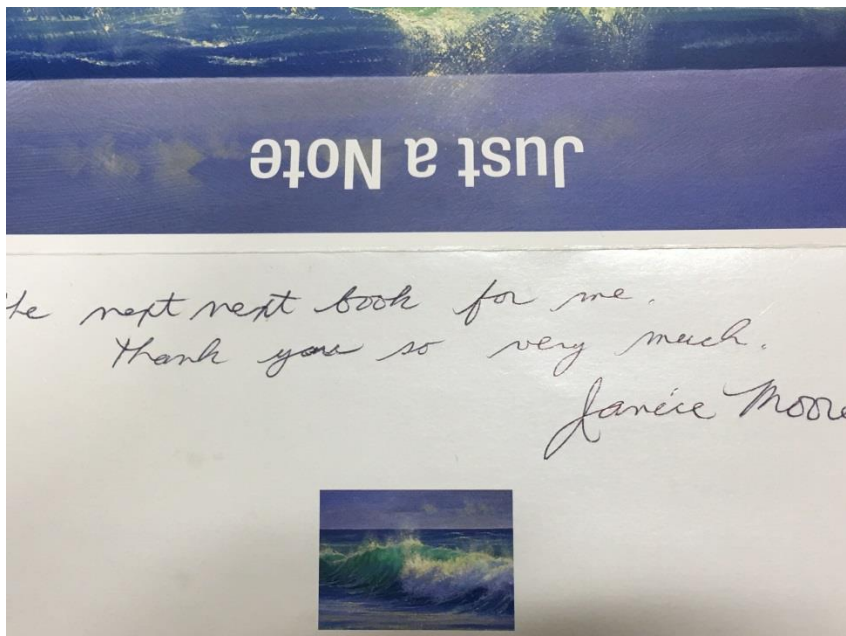
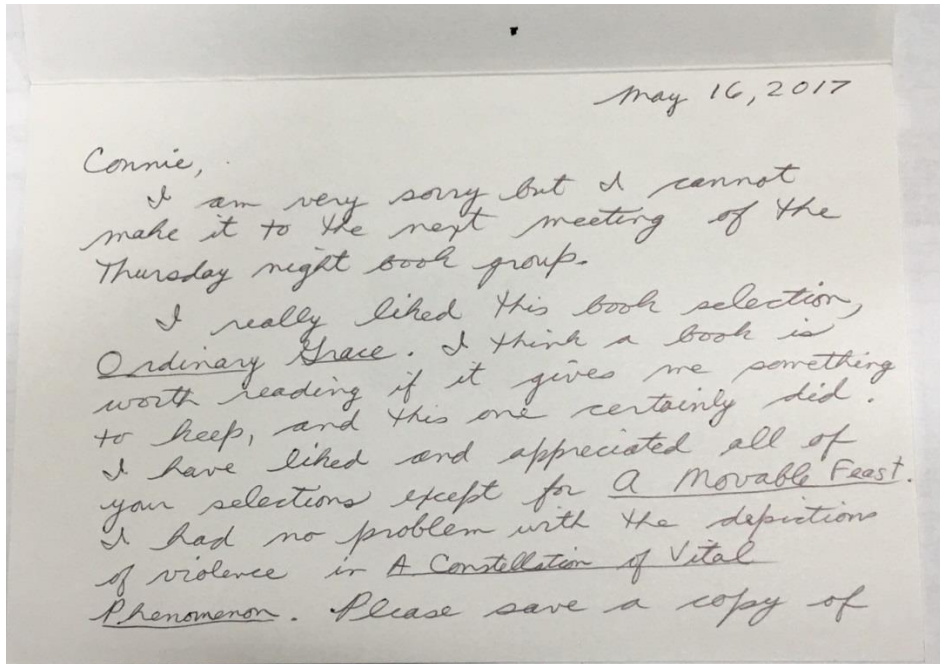
**Neighborhood Services highlights from Connie Heneghan include:
May 2017 REPORT FOR NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES**

PROGRAMS

Train Week at CAMS, May 22-27, choo choo!! Included two train themed story times, a movie, coloring sheets and ne- Levy Center Monday-Wednesday Club Book Talk (15 attendees)

-CAMS Book Group- we read a YA book for the first time, "The Universe Versus Alex Woods."

-North Branch Book Group



Connie attended EPL's African American Literature Group on May at Gibbs-Morrison because I had read the book and the discussion had been promoted as part of the Literary Festival. Two women who had never attended the group and not read the book came thinking that the author would be present.

Paula Shapiro hosted the ESL classes from Lincoln School on May 30th, to introduce them to summer reading

*From: **Huong Banh** <banhh@district65.net>
Date: Wed, May 31, 2017 at 2:28 PM
Subject: Re: Summer Reading
To: Paula Shapiro <pshapiro@cityofevanston.org>*

Hello Paula,

Thank you for hosting my EL students and the kindergarteners! They love being at your library and ask if they can go again tomorrow. It's so wonderful that your library is so close to the school.

Have a wonderful summer!

Best,

Connie was able to visit the Foster Senior Group four times in May.

Our Monday and Wednesday story times were averaging about 40 people.

Bridget and Kerry met with Park School classroom teacher Christy to discuss a story time for her class. They also met with Martha Meyer who had provided a story time in the past.

Bridget and Kerry attended the Main/Dempster Mile quarterly meeting.

Bridget met with Kim Kaufmann about programming surrounding the upcoming August eclipse.

Barb Levie was recognized by the Evanston City Council for her 25 years of service at EPL.



STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

The Dry (Fiction Harpe.J) (B Levie)

Truly Madly Guilty Fiction Moria.L (N Engel)

Mothers, Tell Your Daughters Fiction Campb.B (N Engel)

The Hate U Give/ Fiction Thoma.A (B Levie)

Passing On/Fiction Nivel.P (B Levie)

Bollywood Hollywood/DVD Comedy Bollywo (B Levie)

FACILITIES

We have been aggressively weeding in preparation for the construction this summer at North Branch.

OTHER

We sent our best wishes with Ariel Erbacher as she left us to finish her IMLS and intern at the University of Chicago Law Library. She will be joining the staff of the Cornell Law School Reference Library and teaching research classes, and with Aaron Kinskey who leaves to do graduate work at Marquette University

Adult Services highlights from Heather Norborg include:

In May, 2017, Adult Services staff demonstrated their flexibility and dedication to serving our community by working extra desk hours and helping each other host over 70 events! These included 19 technology classes taught in the library, 22 one-on-one tech help sessions and 9 technology classes taught by Eduardo Gomez outside the library at King Arts Lab School, Family Focus, Blake and Primm Towers. The Tech Desk staff continues to help patrons with our public computers and meeting rooms and does a great job referring patrons to our classes and librarians for additional help.

We had five book discussions this month, including the 2 year anniversary of Lorena Neal's popular Science Fiction & Fantasy Book Discussion Group. On May 22, Lorena also hosted the MENA event "The Afterlives of Torture: Executive Power versus International Law in the Age of Trump," with Professor Lisa Hajjar. The crowd of about 36 was very engaged with the program, and several commented afterwards about how interesting the speaker was. Lorena's legal programming continues to be popular, with the free legal advice sessions filling up a month in advance.

In addition to his two monthly book groups and planning for upcoming summer programming, Ben Remsen hosted a program on May 9 entitled "Debt Dialogue" in partnership with the Kaplan Institute, featuring the head of the Buffett Institute and the president of Northwestern. Kathleen Lanigan, who manages our electronic database subscriptions, purchased a new magazine archive product and continues to oversee our article requests, email reference requests and relationship with the Foundation Center.

Russ Johnson led our department's participation in the Evanston Literary Festival in May, planning and hosting 4 popular events. Russ received the following message from Gary Houston, a Chicago Quarterly Review editor and coordinator for the 5/2 reading:

"As the sun goes down this following day I am writing to thank you for your thoroughly conscientious preparations for our reading last night. It was the best reading we have had in turnout and in the general spirit afloat in the room, and I am deeply thankful we had someone like you there who make it happen."

Russ, as always, was busy and helpful in his management of our "Off the Shelf" blog and the local art exhibit space which this month hosted multiple artists who are residents of Westminster Place. Russ also shared this nice message from Gordon Guth, exhibiting artist and coordinator for the Westminster Place show:

"Thank you very much... for all of your help assisting some of our residents with hanging their paintings. None of this could not have happened without you being there. You even ran out to get additional "S" hooks for us. On behalf of all the artists I want to say thank you, thank you, thank you. I must say that the end result looks quite good. I am impressed..."

In addition to managing our Books on Wheels program, Julie Rand has begun a new series of programming for us this summer called "Ask the Master Gardener" during which master gardeners are available in the lobby to answer patron's horticultural questions. Julie also presented a program on herb gardening this month. One patron arrived with a Ziploc containing a few leaves from her garden with some sort of spots on them. Julie, herself a master gardener, was able to help direct her to the appropriate source of information to help identify the fungus.

Deb Winarski taught a two-part Excel class for 8 grateful patrons this month. She also continued to work with Jeny Wasilewski on a pilot book club for adults with intellectual disabilities. This group meets weekly to listen to the librarians read aloud from a book of their choosing. When the pilot series wraps up in June, we will be reevaluating the structure, timing and format to improve this program for the fall.

In addition to hosting her book club and monthly film program, Kim Hiltwein took the lead in reader's advisory this month, stepping up to manage the department's participation in the Summer Reading Program, attending training sessions on "passive RA," updating our instruction manuals for many daily tasks at the RA desk and, along with other dedicated RA staff Barb Levie, Jeny Wasilewski, Olivia Mo and Jeff Balch, keeping the desk and displays running smoothly. Led by Jeff Balch, the Free Book Distribution program distributed over 1000 books to sites around town.

All staff attending training sessions on the new Summer Reading Program software and familiarized themselves with the new Overdrive app, Libby.

In the beginning of May, Heather Norborg attended a two-day "Beyond Diversity" seminar offered to representatives from all Cradle to Career organizations. Its purpose is to help community members develop skills to discuss race and begin to help eliminate systemic racial disparities in public and private enterprise. She also represented the library at the Evanston Community Foundation's awards ceremony where a \$20,000 grant was awarded to the library's Community Digital Literacy program.

Technical Services highlights from Tim Longo include:

Items Added

Adult at Main=1234
Adult at North=70
Adult at CAMS=23
Total adult items=1327

Juvenile at Main=1558
Juvenile at North=216
Juvenile at CAMS=122

Total juv items=1896

YA at Main=345
YA at North=64
YA at CAMS=62

Total YA items=471

Total items added to collection in May 2017=3694

May 2017

Carts Ordered:

- Titlesource 360:
Evanston RW Adult Fiction: 1356.55
Evanston RW Adult Nonfiction: 4967.35
Evanston PL Fiction- Mystery & Detective: 496.90
Fantasy: 392.35
Romance: 240.61
Poetry: 232.79
Urban: 36.15
Business: 737.76
Parenting (JUV): 47.97
Main AY Fiction: 1180.84
Main AY Nonfiction: 123.12
Popular Paperbacks: 25.56
Poly: 401.32
Travel: 266.28
Non-CLS Purchases: 1323.83
Non-CLS Most Wanted: 221.81
Most Wanted: 762.25
North: 149.09
BB ADULT RE-ORDER- APR(1): 157.63
Replacements: 1273.84
Misc: 670.60
Y.O.U. books ordered for the children's room.
Amazon: 407.06
Overdrive: 1507.87
Audiobooks: 2398.38

Patron Requests:

Received 39 patron book requests for the month of May. Will purchase 27 of the titles suggested.
Received 3 patron audiobook requests for the month of May. Will purchase 2 of the titles suggested.
Received 2 patron ebook requests for the month of May. Will purchase 1 of the titles suggested.
Received 1 patron CD request for the month of May. Will purchase 0 of the titles suggested.

Donations:

Adult Gift Books Added to the Collection: 102

Adult Gift DVDs Added to the Collection: 202

Local Authors Added to the Collection:

An American in Acapulco: Dodging Raindrops and Bullets by John R. Lyman

Weeding:

Books Sent to Repair: 30
Most Wanted Titles Weeded: 48
Most Wanted Titles Added to the Circ Collection: 11
Damaged Books Weeded: 245
CDs Weeded: 1
Audiobooks Weeded: 1
Old Editions of New Books on Standing Orders Pulled: 9
Additional Old Travel & Test Books Pulled: 4
Books Sent to be Relabeled, Cataloged, etc.: 23
Audiobooks Sent to be Relabeled, Cataloged, etc.: 9
CDs Sent to be Relabeled, Cataloged, etc.: 1
DVDs Sent to be Relabeled, Cataloged, etc.: 1
Books from the "Lost" report replaced:
Audiobooks from the "Lost" report replaced:

Weeding Plan for Nonfiction (300s)

Missing: 109
Weeded: 927

Displays

First Floor – DIY in Your Own Backyard
5/1 – 2nd Floor Front – Debt
5/1 – 2nd Floor Back – Evanston Literary Festival
5/10 – 2nd Floor Front – Black Panthers
5/10 – 2nd Floor Back – How to Draw
Staff: Jill S.

Meetings: All from Betsy this month as I was out on paternity leave

5/2 – Met with Miguel and Kathleen about Odilo at Karen's request. After much discussion it was determined that Miguel will look at a demo of Odilo but that after considering staff feedback to previous demos we may not pursue this further. We are currently trying to increase awareness of our print collection. When that occurs we will be able to move into pure ebook platforms in Spanish. However, to meet the current needs (which are difficult to determine) Miguel will look into whether or not Hoopla and Overdrive have Spanish options we can opt into. Additionally, we discussed Flipster and the possibility of adding it to the budget in 2018.
5/9 – Met with Amanda Kramme of Blackstone Audio.
5/10 – Met with Karen DL about collections, diversity, equity, and speaking to the board.
5/12 – Meet with Wynn Shawver about a donor who may wish to set up an endowment for adult fiction.
5/19 – Had a phone conversation with Katie Yap of Overdrive and Heather Norborg to discussing the upcoming Digital Bookmobile visit and to work out the logistics.

Literary Salons:

May – 6th @ 4:00

The Rhythm in the Words: How Music and the Beat Informs Books for Kids and Teens

Musicians make music. Authors write books. And when musicians write books, the results can be eclectic. Join musicians Mike Grosso (I Am Drums) and Donovan Mixon (Ahgottahandleonit) as they discuss their latest books for children and teens and how the influence of music, rhythm, and beat pervades their writing styles and works particularly well in books for young readers.

Mike Grosso is a musician and a fourth-grade teacher who always keeps a guitar in his classroom. His father gave him his first lesson, and his mom taught him how to keep a steady rhythm. Mike continues to write and record music at his home in Oak Park, Illinois, where he lives with his wife, son, and a drum set he plays much too loud. I AM DRUMS is his first novel, and its accompanying soundtrack, *Songs for Sam(antha)*, is available at many digital music outlets.

Donovan Mixon was a full-time faculty member at Berklee College of Music when in 1988 he won an NEA grant for jazz composition. Five years later he moved to Europe for professional and artistic development. During these years Donovan released four recordings that feature prominent musicians from Boston, to Milan to Istanbul. The apex of his recording career to date was recording *Free With Lee* with Philology Records. In 2000, Advance Music published his critically acclaimed music text *Performance Ear Training*. *Ahgotahandleonit*, published by Cinco Puntos Press, is his first YA novel.

Volunteer highlights from Mary Kling include:

- Interviewed seven new volunteers
- Checked references of two volunteers
- Received requests for additional volunteers from Staff (Circulation, Children's, Free Book Distribution (substitutes), Community Outreach, Administration
- Placed new volunteers in Community Service (1), Free Book Distribution (2), and Circulation (1)
- Monitored Volunteer Evanston website for referrals and verification of hours logged by volunteers
- Communicated with 21 current volunteers
- Updated volunteer information in Raiser's Edge
- Attended EPL Donor and Volunteer Recognition Event
- Distributed appreciation gifts to volunteers
- Met with Julie Rand to plan background check process/timeline for Books on Wheels volunteers

Upcoming events of note:

June 29th 11:00 – 12:30

The Peregrine Returns: The Art and Architecture of an Urban Raptor Recovery

Author:

Mary Hennen
Director, Chicago Peregrine Program
Bird Asst Collection Manager, Science and Education
The Field Museum

Book Signing Event

Excerpts from patron feedback:

From Laura Antolin:

From Joe Chouinard, Comix Revolution:

Thank you for the pictures, Laura! We look forward to it every year.

Thanks,

Joe Chouinard

From Angie Banks-Stewart (photos sent)

Thank you! Both Annika and Jonah have read all of their comic book picks already.

Angie Banks-Stewart

From Emily Fishman, Y.O.U. Oakton

Hi Laura,

Our year has come to a close and unfortunately we weren't able to find more books. I will definitely check back in with teachers and parents when the school year ends, however I am not optimistic. Just wanted to give you a heads up. Thank you again for this amazing partnership. I will definitely look forward to continuing and improving (the organization on my end!) next year!

Best,

Emily

Letter from Y.O.U. Site staff:

Dear Laura

Thank you so much for partnering with us this year. The library deliveries brought so much joy to our youth. We hope to work with you again next year!

Sincerely,

Emily, Froilan, Simone and Tori

From Xiomara, Family Center

Thank you so much Laura for doing L&G all this year, we really appreciate this partnership! Thank you for the electronic library card app., I will pass it to our parents.

Have a great week!

*Xiomara Alfaro Mayen
District 65 Family Center
Early Start Program Supervisor*

From Wilson:

I end every single one of my drop-in preschool story times with the song “Jenny Works with One Hammer.” A father told me that the other day at home he heard his 4 year-old daughter and 3 year-old son singing in the living room. He recognized the song. They were singing “Jenny Works with One Hammer” and laughing and adding verses. I usually end with five hammers but they were going up to seven, eight, nine hammers. When they stopped the daughter said “we’re doing story time!!!” and started singing the song again. This story of course made me very happy.

From: Sindelar

May was a very enjoyable month in Children’s. Parent-Child Workshop was in full swing and we had a very nice group of new families. We had two days that were particularly magical. Brian booked a guest who specialized in music therapy. He was there on the day we were working with playdough. It’s incredible to be reminded of the power of music. The guest sat and played guitar during free play. Kids mushed playdough, danced with shaky eggs and parents sat on the floor in a group and talked gently. It was the most wonderful morning for all! Our volunteer was able to take the lead in organizing the final craft of the year, and she chose art made with yarn. One family brought a big brother, and he and I ended up doing a braiding lesson and made him a bracelet while his younger brothers did free play. His dad was reminded of how much he enjoyed lanyard making at camp as a child. You really never know where art and music will take you!!

From Iverson:

Dear Jessica,

Thank you so much for a fun program this morning. Eli is up in his room stop-motioning as I type this!! He was inspired!!

Best,
Rachel



There was also another participant who geeked out when he realized the presenter and author (David Pickett) for the program was the same guy the boy had been watching on YouTube build



cool Lego creations.

From Altenbach:

On a morning when Robin Sindelar and I were on the desk together, a little girl (age 3-4) came up and asked us, "Are scorpions real?"

Robin answered her very seriously, and informed her that scorpions were real but did not live in Illinois, and offered to show her where the books about scorpions were. Her dad showed up from where he was lagging behind her. She informed him that they did not need to worry about scorpions, and he told us that he had explained to her that you had to wear your shoes inside buildings like the library just in case there were scorpions around ready to sting you.

Although Robin and I felt bad that we had not corroborated his story while he was responsibly trying to keep his child's shoes on her feet, we ultimately felt that we had stuck to our professional ethics as employees of the library in sharing the truth with her.

--

I had a bit of an unusual reader's advisory interaction. Ben Remsen from Adult Services forwarded this query to me which they had received from their e-mail reference form, because it seemed more in our wheelhouse:

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **EPL website** <djordan@cityofevanston.org>

Date: Wed, May 24, 2017 at 7:24 PM

Subject: New question from Reference Question

To: library-eref@cityofevanston.org

Name
Vera Mae Nolan
Evanston Resident?
Yes
Do you prefer an answer by:
Email
Email
becnolan@comcast.net
How soon do you need this information?
As soon as you can
What is your question? The more you tell us, the better we can help you, so please be specific.
Hi, I love reading Franny K. Stein, Dory Fantasmagory, and The Origami Yoda series. My mom says you can help me find another series I will like. I am almost 7 years old. I do not like June B. Jones. Oh and I like Princess in Black and Ivy and Bean but not as much. Thank you for your help.
How will you use this information? For example, is it for a term paper, a business, a hobby, or trivia game? It's okay if you are just curious!
More reading! My mom says I get lost in books and love more adventures. And to read about bold kids like me.

Please tell us what sources you have checked already. What words did you use to search? We don't want to duplicate any work that you have already done.

I have not looked because I don't know what to type in the search.

Jude Mathews and I brainstormed a list of titles for her and then I sent a response, and received a nice reply from her mom (I also thought this reflected very well on the K-Tours):

Wed, May 24, 2017 at 8:59 PM

Andrea Altenbach <aaltenbach@cityofevanston.org>

To: becnolan@comcast.net

Dear Vera,

Thank you so much for your message! You gave us exactly the information we needed to answer your question, and all the librarians were very impressed. Sometimes adults do not ask questions that well. Based on the series you told us you liked and didn't like, we think you should try these:

- *Keena Ford* by Melissa Thomson
- *Dragonbreath* by Ursula Vernon
- *Mercy Watson* by Kate Dicamillo
- *Judy Moody* by Megan McDonald
- *Gooney Bird Greene* by Lois Lowry
- *Anna Hibiscus* by Atinuke

These are series that are full of bold kids and are very funny like Franny K. Stein and the Origami Yoda books. Let us know how you like them!

R. Nolan <becnolan@comcast.net>

Wed, May 24, 2017 at 10:58 PM

To: Andrea Altenbach <aaltenbach@cityofevanston.org>

Thank you, immensely!

Vera was unbelievably proud of herself for negotiating the website and typing her thoughts to you. She remembers you having explained your role when she was there for her Kindergarten orientation. I was delighted to support her in her quest to reach you.

I will show her your response—she might want it to be included in her “remembering box” (AKA her collection of important papers). Your service to our family and the community is appreciated.

We will be in soon to review books on the list.

My best,

Becca

Better known as Vera’s mom

From Gonzales:

I have seen a lot more Latin American families lately, and it brings me great joy to be able to make them feel welcome by interacting with them in their native tongue. I have welcomed them to participate in our story times and summer reading. I’m glad to be able to represent a mirror for them in our children’s department.

Collection Development at EPL

Tim Longo | Technical Services Manager
Evanston Public Library

Betsy Bird | Collection Development Manager
Evanston Public Library



Main Library

- 478,000 items in collection
- 31,000 E-Books
- 25,000 DVD's
- 10,500 CD's
- 9,400 Audiobooks



North Branch

- 24,000 items in collection
- 21,300 Books
- 1,000 DVDs
- 530 Audiobooks



CAMS

- 8,300 items in collection
- 6,900 Books
- 670 DVDs
- 70 Audiobooks



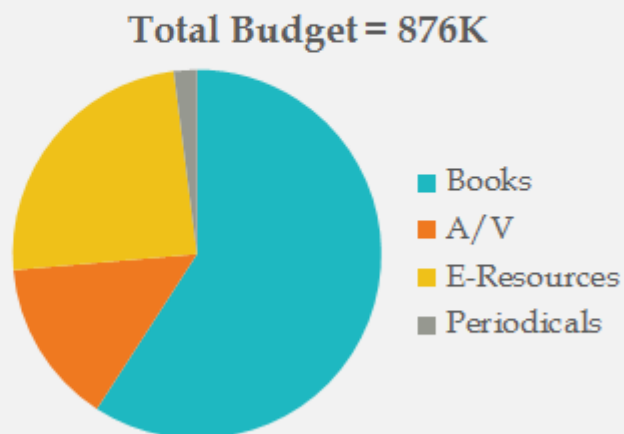
Collection Spotlights

- Materials in more than 35 different languages
- 5,600 Spanish language materials
- Over 1,700 Foreign language DVDs
- Over 370 Adult Literacy materials and over 900 Plays
- EHC & Shorefront Collections



EPL Collection Budget

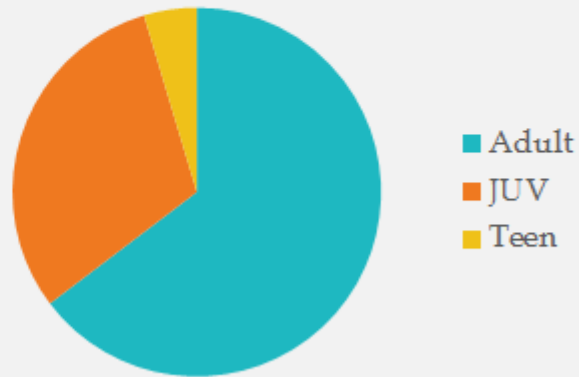
- Books=518K-59%
- E-Resources=213K-24%
- A/V=127K-14%
- Periodicals=18K-3%



Book Budget Breakdown

- ADULT= 335K-65%
- JUV= 159K-33%
- YA= 24K-5%

Total book budget=518K



Collection Curation

Data Analytics



Professional Expertise



Patron Concerns and Feedback

What we're changing, trying, and looking into. Areas where we can grow

Methods of Requesting Materials

- Request items through the librarians working on the desk
- Submit a request through the homepage
- Submit a request through the catalog page
- Submit a written request through the suggestion box on the second floor.
- Visiting, calling, or emailing me directly.
- Phone: 847-448-8619
- Email: ebird@cityofevanston.org

How Can We Do More?

- Ebook Diversity (upcoming RTL feature)
- Weeding parameters for the collection
- More outreach to specific publishers
- Displays (Patron Picks & Assessing Staff Recs)
- Popular Materials – Renting, not buying
- PDA – Patron Driven Acquisition

Closing Thoughts

