

From the Director



January greeted the new year with the all ages Winter Reading Challenge. The challenge encourages readers to read books outside of their norm, track the number of books they read, and discover new library services. The Challenge takes two forms: a Bingo card, available on paper in the library and as a PDF on the library website, and our Beanstack app, available on digital devices. Prizes include free books, movie posters, gift cards, and more. The Winter Reading Challenge ends February 28.

In youth programs, a new weekly program joined our line-up of Toddler & Baby Time and Family Storytime: Play Group. On Fridays from 10am to noon, families are invited to come to the library to play with a variety of toys and socialize. The program is a hit, with over 50 parents, caregivers, and children attending the program weekly.

On the January 18 Early Release Day, Youth Services staff held “STEAM Stuff,” a program for elementary-age children to drop in for hands-on STEAM activities. Teen Afterschool Drop-In Activities days returned on Wednesdays, from 3-6pm, and are seeing an increase in the number of teens attending.

Adult programs featured a concert performed by Fern Hill Bluegrass and an online presentation about life in Neanderthal times. Genealogy Club, Walking Book Club, and English (ESL) class met. We were delighted to have Charlotte Lehan give two lectures at the library on Wilsonville history, and to a very enthusiastic, and large, crowd!

In recognition of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, library staff created a book display honoring Dr. King. Many library users checked out books from the display.

Library staff held a drill to practice procedures for searching for a lost child, and discussed it at the library All-Staff quarterly meeting.

Cultural Pass options expanded in January. New is the Portland Opera cultural pass, which provides two free tickets to a matinee performance of the opera. The Oregon State Parks cultural pass is now available digitally, and no longer requires the pass user to come in to the library to get a physical pass.

-Shasta Sasser, Library Director