

October 2022 Monthly Report

From the Director

October at the library was once again hopping with fun fall programs. In youth services, the library offered weekly Toddler & Baby Time, and two Family Storytimes. Special not-so-spooky storytimes were held October 26 and 27 and were followed by the beloved Pumpkin Patch Polka, where children in costumes parade and dance through the library to music. STEAM Stuff programs continued through October, which were programs focused on Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math skills for children. The annual Kindergarten Carnival was held October 12-15 in partnership with the West Linn Public Library. Youth services staff also performed a storytime at the Fall Festival. For teens, the library offered drop-in teen events where teens could hang out and try several different activities. On Friday, October 28, a teen murder mystery event took place where in addition to solving the mystery, costumed teens worked together to solve puzzles and riddles to get to clues.

The popular Profiles virtual lecture series continued with a focus on the Brothers Grimm this month. The Books Notes concert in October featured the Portland Guitar Duo, who played enchanting classical guitar music in the central area of the library. Adult services staff put on How to eBook programs, where patrons could drop in and get concentrated, one-on-one help accessing digital materials on mobile devices. While the weather was still nice, the Walking Book Club strolled through Memorial Park and talked all-things books.

The library also began some new programs in October including a beginning English class in partnership with Goodwill, a beginning Spanish class, and a card making class. While National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo) is November, eager participants met in October to workshop ideas ahead of the annual NaNoWriMo competition. The library held its first annual Murder Mystery Event for adults on October 22 and saw a great turnout with much enthusiasm.

In addition to many exciting programs, the library was also internally bustling in October. Early in the month, staff welcomed Sarah Roller, the new Library Services Manager. The library was closed to the public on October 10 for an in-service day. This annual in-service day is a chance for the whole staff to get together at once and attend training and team-building sessions. The library's internal signage project has begun and is in the design phase. The vendor for the signage project met with staff to do a comprehensive walk-through to start developing a sign package that is functional, accessible, and compliments the library's design. Lastly, the library held a small volunteer appreciation event on October 16 to celebrate the amazing work that volunteers do every day at the library.

-Shasta Sasser, Library Director