

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

JULY/AUGUST 2023

Personnel

In August, The Library accepted the resignation of Business Manager Sharon Alfano. Her last day before retirement will be September 5, 2023. Nyack Library wishes her a relaxing and lovely retirement. A search committee was formed and interviews were ongoing through August.

In July, the Library formed a search committee to replace recently departed Librarian for Programs and Community Engagement, Kristin Fowler and in August hired Nanor Pogosian for the position.

In July, Coralie Verdier left her position as Circulation Page.

In August, Kimberly Pienkawa left her position as Teen Room Summer Assistant.

In August, Kaitlyn Carpio left her position as Teen Room Information Specialist.

In August, Karen Kyle left her position as Circulation Clerk.

The Library also has an open Human Resources position.

Saturday Librarian Pilot:

The Library is seeking to make the four-hour weekly Saturday Children's Room librarian piloted program permanent. The pilot was created to fulfill patron demand with an additional Children's Room librarian on weekends for programs and increased Library usage. This summer we had over 100 participants in story times, STEAM programs, and Spanish language programs. If the Library intends to do any weekend programming, having this additional staff member in place is essential for that purpose. Saturday has always been among the busiest days in the Library and it is our goal here to create a great, and less rushed, weekend experience. The Children's Room Summer Reading program has never been more popular and the circulation of materials continues to grow. It is important that the staffing of the Library meet this growing demand. There is the added benefit of this staff member providing flexibility to full-time librarian staff for programming and reference back-up on weekdays. We will continue to look for different ways to meet the needs of patrons using the Library on the weekends.

Outreach

Nanor Pogosian has reached out to Literacy Solutions about starting ESL classes at the Library. She has been invited to speak with students and faculty to discuss Nyack Library programs, services, and resources.

Programming

The Summer Reading Program concluded at the Closing Ceremony on August 11 with cakes and a raffle. This year's program was the biggest on record, with 555 participants.

Among the successful Adult programs this Summer was the Library's collaboration with The Hopper House and the author Richard Lacayo to discuss his book *The Last Light*, and well received Open Mic Night, and the continued success of Friday Film School.

Facilities

Trustee Daniel Wolff coordinated the donation of two new artworks for the Library's permanent collection. A sculpture, "Haitian Thinker" by J. DeSormeau to be placed in the Carnegie Room was donated anonymously and a painting, "Mother and Child", c. 1972 by Penius LeRiche to be hung in the Children's Room. The painting was donated by the Estate of Jonathan Demme.

Technology

IT Administrator Lou Moreno moved all shared drives from a Windows server to Google Cloud in an effort to shift away from local hosted servers. Lou deployed Synology NAS to backup our Google Cloud.

The Nyack Library participated in the search for a new catalog. The subcommittee met through July and August and recommended to the Director's Association to move to Koha. The open source software is more flexible with a better overall user experience. The Director's Association will vote on the recommendation in September, and if approved the Library will migrate after the end of our current contract in September, 2024.