

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

May 2024

Personnel

The Library hired Bobby Ciarletta for the position of Circulation Clerk. Bobby has a Bachelor's degree in English Literature from Ramapo College in New Jersey. He has experience as an intern in news reporting and book publishing. He likes to read and played tennis for his school team. He is bilingual in French and English.

The Library is currently recruiting for a part-time Business Manager Assistant.

Dr. Kawanna Bright presented on a staff inclusion survey at the Library's all staff meeting. The survey's analysis is included in this Board packet.

Outreach

Several staff and board members attended the Rotary Cocktail for Charity event held at Maura's Kitchen in Nyack. The event raised over one thousand dollars.

Nyack High School has created a program called One School, One Book. The district selected Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury and each student will be required to read it this summer. Morgan Strand has purchased additional copies for our Teen Room in English, Spanish, and as a graphic novel. She will host a meet-up in August with students to discuss the book and check on their progress.

Eric McCarthy attended the Nyack School District Multicultural Festival to promote programs at the Library and encourage Library card registration.

Eric also attended a meeting organized by Rockland Works Career Center to see how the Library can collaborate on an initiative called Yes to Success. The event is a job fair directed towards youth aged 16-24. Morgan will be the point person and the Library will work with area organizations to help raise interest and suggest potential employers to participate.

Programs

On May 6, the Social Justice Committee created a book share. The purpose of the event was for staff members to share titles they had read that addressed themes around social justice. Lunch was served to the staff and a display was created for the public of books that were discussed. This was an excellent opportunity to create some space to discuss issues related to inclusion and diversity. It is also an excellent forum to learn about books we might be unfamiliar with and make all of us better readers advisors.

The Children's Room collaborated with the Family Resource Center at Valley Cottage Elementary school on a bilingual story time. Maria Bohan organized a series of three preschool programs in both English and Spanish.

Technology

The Library will be migrating to new ILS software. The Library would like to delay opening from 10 am to 1 pm on Monday August 5 to manage the downtime transactions and allow for staff to acclimate to the new software. Additionally, during the migration from August 1 at 4pm through August 4, the Library would like to limit the number of check-outs to patrons to two items and disallow checkouts of high priced items including e-Readers, Internet hot spots, videogames, literacy kits, and museum passes.

Facilities

The north wall of the Computer Resource Center and the walls in the western staircase were painted in preparation for a new art exhibit. Jeff coordinated the vendors and supervised the work.