

FRIENDS GRANTS PROGRAM SUMMARIES

4th QUARTER 2016

Adult Classes and Events

Memory Café:

This monthly program is dedicated to providing a neutral public place for people with dementia and their caregivers, to socialize in a non-judgmental setting. This program is one of six locations offered in partnership with Fox Valley Memory Project. Friends funding supports supplies for activities for participants to engage in.

Adult Learners at APL:

Adult Learners at APL includes speaker and lecture series, field trips and short courses targeted at adults ages 50+. Adult Learners responds to community needs and leverages local experts to provide educational opportunities. Friends funds pay for the Adult Learners series.

Books Build Community:

Books Build Community (BBC) responds to and engages in community initiatives, fostering shared experiences and dialogue on a specific topic. A selected book serves as a tool and reference point for a broad audience to share with formal book clubs, in living rooms, and in workplaces around town. Friends funds contributed a portion of the funding for 50 copies of the current book selection, *Evicted* by Matthew Desmond.

Come On, Gut Healthy:

Come On, Gut Healthy had 23 participants who connected to health experts and coaches who will continue to help them through their health journey. The presenter discussed how to keep your digestive system healthy and how a healthy life starts in your gut. Friends funding supported the speaker fee and supplies for all participants to participate in hands-on activities.

Get Crafty!

Community Partnerships and Children's Services contracted with a local florist to provide a wreath making workshop for adults and children. This program provided an opportunity for parents and children to complete similar activities in the same room at the same time, and each leave with their own work of art. A total of 54 people took part in the program. Friends funding supported the florist fee and supplies.

Refugee and Immigrant Services and Education (RISE):

This program was developed in partnership with Forward Services to meet the unique needs and interests of the growing population of refugees and immigrants in Appleton. While RISE draws a diverse audience in nationality, age, and interests, the program generally attracts adults age 18-50 years' old who are seeking for employment and life skill resources. RISE incorporates informational and recreational topics such as stress management, storytelling, and library resources. RISE empowers individuals to become self-sufficient and integrate themselves into a new country without losing their culture and identity. In addition, the adults who participate in RISE receives "participation activity hours" towards their government assistance programs through Forward

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Services. Through RISE, we have seen an increase of new refugees and immigrants at the library using the computers and checking out books from the Adult Easy Reader Collection. Forward Services has referred many new patrons to the library to get their first library card. Friends funding supports interpreter support, supplies and refreshments.

RISE Community Resource Fair:

APL and Forward Services implemented a Community Resource Fair for refugees and immigrants in Appleton. The fair attracted more than 340 adults and children. A variety of social service agencies and community resources for education, employment, utilities and wellness participated in the event. Feeding America provided food for a mobile food pantry serving 230 families. A winter clothing drive provided participants with warm clothing for the upcoming cold weather. Friends funding supported the preparations to support the mobile food pantry.

Teen Classes and Events

Special Events:

Community Partnerships provides a diverse schedule of programming designed for teens between the ages of 11-18. These programs provide teens of all backgrounds with a safe environment to learn, connect with others, and develop social and technical skills. Friends funding supported programs such as Pinterest Pajama Party, Rewind: Retro Play Date and Miss Alicia's Cake Decorating Party.

Minecraft:

A weekly program for teens where a server is provided for up to 60 teens to play the video game Minecraft in a cooperative environment. Teens learn about construction, collaboration, and problem solving while developing social and technological skills in a moderated environment. Friends funding supports this program.

Anime Night:

Anime Night is a monthly program for teens with an interest in anime and the Japanese culture. Friends funding supported a special program with master mask maker, Kym Lewis, allowing teens an opportunity for technical design and creative expression.

K-Pop Club:

K-Pop Club is a bi-monthly program designed for teens with an interest in aspects of Korean Pop culture including music, TV and food. Teens have developed friendships with their peers around common interests, built trust with a caring adult (YA Librarian) and have had opportunities to build leadership and communication skills through this program. Friends funds support the purchase of materials for K-Pop Club.

ACT Test Preparation:

Responding to multiple requests for ACT test prep, we offered free tutoring in the English, Reading, Math and Science parts of the test. Students returned night after night

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to learn testing strategies and improve their skills in English, Reading, Math and Science. Friends funds supported the purchase of textbooks for the ACT test prep.

Tween Classes and Events

Tween Scene:

Tween Scenes are classes designed for 3rd through 6th graders. The subject matter varies and remains responsive to the needs and interests of the community. The primary focus of the Tween Scenes is to introduce tweens to building, exploring and creating through the STEAM fields. Tween Scene classes include:

Historical European Martial Arts

Members from the Wisconsin Historical Fencing Association, led an afternoon workshop teaching about sword fighting and leading drills of different moves.

Design T-Shirts

Focusing on design principles and using fabric markers and crayons and iron on letters, tweens drew sketches of designs for t-shirts and jerseys.

Book Creator Apps

Tweens worked collaborative to plan and write a story using the Book Creator app on an iPad.

LEGO Zipline

Tweens experimented with physics and aerodynamics by building LEGO creations to go down a zip line!

Brighten a Day

Tweens created light up cards with watch batteries and led lights. They came up with creative ways of using the led lights such as Rudolph and a clown's nose, sun, stage lighting and a birthday candle.

Escape from the Library

Tweens worked together to solve a series of clues including a variety of puzzles to ultimately find the key to escape the library. The Escape Room Wisconsin, located in Appleton, allowed us to use their equipment to create an engaging escape filled with unique locks and a candy reward for the tweens.

Children's Classes and Events

Harry Potter and the Fantastic Beasts:

In preparation for the release of the Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them movie, Children's Services hosted a celebration for fans of the JK Rowling book. Participants created their own fantastic beasts; made origami dragons; experimented with mixing potions; created chocolate-covered, pretzels; and made wands with pencils and cool glue! Friends funds paid for supplies for the event.

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Elephant & Piggie:

Children's Services provided children with the chance to meet real-life Elephant & Piggie for an end of summer celebration. The event included a reading of "The Thank You Book", crafts and photos. The goal of the event was to thank the participants of the summer library program in a fun and educational way. Friends funds paid for supplies for the event.

Vote for Your Favorite Book Character:

In October and November, Children's Services held a mock election for children to vote for their favorite book characters, with the goal of introducing children to the voting process. Friends funds paid for the supplies for the event.

STEAM Programs:

Over the course of three years, staff developed in depth STEAM-based classes for children and their caregivers. The goal of STEAM programming is to introduce children to a variety of fields, while fostering literacy skills and community engagement through library programming. Friends funding supports apps for digital programs/story times, OSMO kits to foster joint media engagement through technology, and equipment for the Full STEAM Ahead class.

Ongoing Classes, Events and Services

Artist in Residence:

The Artist-in-Residence series contracts with a local artist to place their work on display in the library and provide workshops and demonstrations to the public. The program celebrates the work of local artists and welcomes community members of all ages to experience the arts through engaging opportunities. Friends funds pay for an honorarium for the artist.

Fox Cities Reads:

Fox Cities Reads is a community-wide read event that takes place every April. The Fox Cities public libraries come together to hold this event to build community and promote literacy. Friends funds provide a contribution toward the honorarium for the Reads author, as well as copies of the community book and t-shirts for staff and volunteers to promote the event.

Cocoa and Coloring Nights:

Cocoa and Coloring Nights provide patrons with the opportunity to relax and socialize in an open environment. This program attracts people of all ages and abilities. Group homes have brought multiple residents to enjoy this intergenerational program. Friends funds provide adult coloring books, art supplies and hot chocolate for refreshments.

Music at the Library:

This music series is offered on select Sundays from 2:00-3:00 p.m. in the lower level meeting rooms. It showcases local musicians and bands providing music ranging from

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classic rock, country, and folk music to classical works by Mozart and Beethoven. Local senior living facilities provide shuttle service for their residents to attend these programs. Friends funds provide musicians with honoraria for their performances.

Films at the Library:

Monday Morning Matinee is a regular film series designed for persons with cognitive disabilities, but it is open to the public. Local group homes provide shuttle service for their residents to attend these programs. Additional participants include parents, grandparents and other caregivers of young children.

Thursday at the Movies features films and documentaries at the library. Some participants do not own DVD or Blu-ray players. Friends funds pay for refreshments.

Find Your Ancestors:

Find Your Ancestors contracts with experts in the field of genealogy to present on various topics. This program is a natural fit with the library; and every series grows in attendance. Friends funding supports the stipend for the genealogy speakers.

FAN Pass:

The FAN Pass program provides library patrons with free access to local arts and culture. The program's first anniversary was celebrated in October, with an update to the program display. Friends funds paid for the new display items.

Steampunk Saturday:

Steampunk Saturday is an annual fall event that features tea dueling, crafts, storytelling, Victorian-style souvenir photos, costume contests, as well as Steampunk presenters. This program engages the community through creativity, learning and entertainment. This was the fifth year of the event and brought in a total of 92 people. Friends funds pay for and honorarium for the speakers, prizes and supplies.

Staff Development - (In)visible Exhibit at History Museum at the Castle:

Community Partnerships and Public Services staff participated in a development opportunity by viewing the (In)Visible exhibit at the History Museum at the Castle. This trip was planned to enhance staff understanding of our community resources as well as the day-to-day experiences of our community members experiencing homelessness. Friends funds paid for admission to the History Museum.

Playaway Launchpad:

Playaway Launchpads are durable tablets that come pre-loaded with educational apps for families to use and to explore. This new Playaway Launchpad collection eliminates barriers to access to quality technology. Since its introduction, the Launchpad collection has been heavily circulated. Friends funds paid for the Launchpads.

3D Printing:

The Digital Creation Lab in the library is equipped with a 3D Printer. Library patrons may schedule a one-on-one session with a 3D printer coach to work through the process of

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selecting a design from an online collection or designing an object for print. Friends funds provide 3D printing tools and supplies, such as filament and brushes.

Paper Summer Library Program:

There are four categories of the summer library program; adults, teens, children and baby/toddlers. The adult program encourages adults to read and attend programs at the library. The teen program is designed to promote reading through fun activities and incentives. The children's program is designed to encourage children to read, create and engage in activities with family and/or friends. The baby/toddler program focuses on the building blocks of reading. Friends funds support prizes, events and supplies for the Summer Library Program.

Online Summer Library Program:

The online SLP program allows patrons to participate anytime, anyplace.

READsquared, our online SLP platform, lets patrons log their reading, play games, take part in missions and earn digital badges for their accomplishments. This new platform makes the summer library program more accessible for patrons. Adult registration has hit a record with this new platform. Friends funds pay for the READsquared software.

Summer Library Program Postage:

During the summer months, the Children's Services connects with area businesses and organizations to procure donation prizes for the Children's, Teen and Adult Summer Library Programs. Solicitation and thank you letters are sent out to businesses. Friends funding pays for the postage.

Ride and Read:

This partner program with Valley Transit provides free transportation to the library on Wednesdays for children ages 17 and under, June through August. This service is designed to help remove barriers from attending programs at the library. Friends funds, along with Valley Transit, pay for the bus fares.

Special Projects

Storyteller Campaign:

The 2016 storyteller campaign helped spread awareness about the role of the Appleton Public Library in the community. Community member stories were collected and marketing materials were produced based on the stories. Friends funds paid for a professional photographer to capture community member images and printed marketing materials to aid in spreading the message.

Merchandising:

Public Services creates and maintains displays, with the goal of creating a personalized experience for patrons while increasing the use of library collections. Examples of merchandising strategies include; special topic displays for print and media, staff picks and new media displays. Friends funds purchased sign holders and various display pieces to assist in merchandising.

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