

Adult Classes and Events

Edible Wild Plants Workshop:

Samuel Thayer wowed the audience of 65 attendees with his encyclopedic knowledge about foraging for plants. He took the group on a "field trip" around the library where he identified multiple edible plants! This was followed by a fascinating PowerPoint presentation. Friends funds supported an honorarium for the presentation.

Fermentasting Workshop:

Karen and Eric Riggers, local fermentation experts and owners of Reinvent Ferment, presented an educational workshop about gut health, benefits of bacteria, and the basics of do-it-yourself fermentation. They offered a live demonstration with food sampling and recommended books and other resources for further exploration. The 34 attendees shared how much they enjoyed the program, stating how accessible the content was, how they had previously believed at-home fermentation had to be a more complicated process, and that they learned how to get started on their own fermentation projects. Friends funds provided the presenters with an honorarium.

How to Make it in the Music Business:

Author and musician Ari Herstand shared his experience in the music industry with an audience of 48 attendees. He read from and discussed his best-selling book, *How to Make it in the Music Business*. Local fans and those who traveled from Madison and Milwaukee to attend also saw his live performance of his original music. Friends funds paid for an honorarium.

Teen Classes and Events

A State of Mind: Teens in North Korea:

The viewing of "A State of Mind" was established because local teens expressed an interest in more documentaries that are focused on the different experiences of teens internationally. There are many questions about North Korea and the film would answer some of them. Winner of the Pyongyang International Film Festival, this film follows the lives of two teens living privileged lives in Pyongyang, North Korea. Friends funds paid for the public performance license.

Cake Decorating – Candy Craze:

Cake Decorating has been requested by teens who love to create and are fans of the Food Network. Using fondant and icing, teens learned to make their cakes look amazingly professional and delicious. Teens brought in candy decorations and had a chance to work together and learn new skills. Friends funds were used to purchase cake decorating equipment, fondant, and icing.

Drum Circle

Tiffany Vollrath with Expressive Therapies led a drum circle experience for teens, giving them the opportunity to play a variety of different drums/percussion instruments with no prior experience required. Participants represented a wide variety of abilities and all

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were incredibly respectful of each other's differences. There were strong connections among the group as they interacted, having a shared social experience through music. Friends funds were used to pay Expressive Therapies to facilitate this program.

End of Teen Summer Library Program Party

This annual event was held at the Scheig Center in the Memorial Park Gardens. The party celebrates the completion of the summer library program and gives teens a warm send-off back to school. Teens enjoyed indoor & outdoor activities including board games, coloring, Rainbow Loom, Nerf wars, and water games. The afternoon ended with pizza, soft drinks, & ice cream. City of Appleton Parks & Recreation provided complimentary use of the Scheig Center. Friends funds paid for the food and craft/activity supplies.

K-Pop Club:

K-Pop Club is designed for teens with an interest in Korean pop culture including music, TV and food. Teens develop friendships with their peers around common interests, build trust with a caring adult (YA librarian) and have opportunities to build leadership and communication skills through this program. Friends' funds provide materials and refreshments for the K-Pop Club.

Mehndi and Music:

By partnering with IndUS of Fox Valley, we were able to offer a multi-generational program that allowed teens to learn and create mehndi designs on art projects while waiting to get henna mehndi temporary tattoos. While the art dried, IndUS volunteers gave a demonstration of traditional Indian dancing and fusion dancing. IndUS donated the henna and Friends Cultural Programming funds were used to purchase craft supplies.

Paint to the Music:

Paint to the Music was created for teens who have an interest in the arts and are seeking a way to express themselves. Each artist received several different media to create different types of artistic expression and they painted as the music inspired them. Friends funds provided materials for their art.

Sew Your Own Curtains:

Sew Your Own Curtains was created for teens as an introduction to using a sewing machine. Every teen was able to make their own curtains and left with a completed project. Some teens brought their own fabric and a volunteer helped them use our sewing machines. The sewing machines were purchased with Friends funds along with other makerspace items in 2017.

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Tween Classes and Events

Tween Scene: Candy Sushi

During the Candy Sushi Tween Scene on July 11th, tweens (3rd-6th graders) learned about different types of sushi and then created their own sushi using rice crispy treats, fruit roll ups and other candy. The tweens had a blast creating (and eating) their candy sushi. Friends funds were used to purchase all the program supplies.

Tween Scene: Slime Lab

During the Slime Lab Tween Scene on July 25th, tweens (3rd-6th graders) each made 2 batches of slime by mixing clear or white school glue with water and borax solution. They used food coloring, beads, glitter and Styrofoam balls to make their slime unique. The tweens enjoyed this program so much that several requested we have another slime program in the future. Friends funds were used to purchase the supplies.

Tween Scene – Candy Mosaics

Candy Mosaics was an opportunity for tweens to make some sweet art. Each tween was given graham crackers and frosting to make a canvas. From there they picked out colors of M&Ms, Skittles and Mini M&Ms they wanted to use. The tweens enjoyed the process and of course, eating a few candies as they created mosaics. Friends' Funds paid for the special candy supplies.

Children's Classes and Events

Read Books and Juggle Everything Else (7.19)

On July 19th Truly Remarkable Loon did two performances for families at the library. At each show he wowed the crowds with his juggling and jokes. He juggled everything from tennis rackets to full sized bean bags and ended his show with a plate spinning act that was truly remarkable. Friends' funds were used to pay the honorariums for the performer.

Zoozort Live Animals (7.26)

Live animals are always a favorite, and this July Zoozort brought some spectacular animals for two packed shows totaling 492 people. Animals included a lemur and a chinchilla. Kids were introduced to each animal and then allowed some time for interactions. A fun (and educational) time was had by all. Zoozort was made possible through funds from the Friends'.

Meet Pete the Cat (8.9)

By August 9, the 2018 Summer Library Program was winding down, and would soon be over, but did we cry? Goodness, no, for our Thursday guest star event finale that day included a visit from one of Children's literature's most popular characters, Pete the Cat! Children's staff all contributed ideas and projects and/or participated, with the help of some great volunteers!!! 225 kids and families enjoyed stories, craft projects, sensory activities, face painting, and, most exciting of all, a Meet-and-Greet with Pete,

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with many photo opportunities. And It was all good. Friends' Funds were used to pay for Pete the Cat!

Hands to Grow

Thanks to the help of our Friends, Children's Services was able to host Hands 2 Grow Productions for another lively puppet show this summer. H2G, directed by puppeteers Cassie Payne and her dad Dave, features likeable characters, kid-relatable, social emotional themes, music, and a good dose of humor. 131 people attended, and Friends' funds were used to pay the honorarium for the performer.

Symphony Storytime

This summer's musical library theme was the perfect time to begin a wonderful program in collaboration with members of the Fox Valley Symphony Orchestra, called "Symphony Storytime." From May to August, each "Symphony Storytime" featured a FVSO musician from each of the four families of instruments: strings, woodwinds, percussion and brass. These wonderful virtuosos not only enhanced the stories, songs and action rhymes presented, but also introduced the audience to the featured instruments and other things musical. Each Storytime included an instrument "petting zoo" presented by staff and volunteers, where kids and families could try out some of the library's musical instruments. The program series was well received with 7 programs and 474 in attendance. Friends' funds were used to pay the FVSO for the musicians' time.

Programs for All Ages

Bazaar After Dark

The Young Professionals Network and the Fox Cities Chamber host Bazaar After Dark (BAD) to draw positive attention to underutilized business districts in the Fox Valley and foster creative community collaborations. Community Partnerships outreach staff organize and staff a vendor space at the event to provide information about library programs and services.

BAD in Neenah was held on Commercial St. in July. 144 people visited the booth and received information about upcoming events such as "Meet Pete the Cat". Over 70 children and teens made bookmarks. Friends funds were used to pay for bookmark decorations.

BAD in Menasha was held downtown in September. 234 visitors were invited to get their picture taken in a Super Hero photo booth and learn about Hoopla's selection of comics, audio books movies and more. "Libraries are for Everyone" buttons were given to visitors. Friends funds were used to pay for the photo booth backdrop and button supplies.

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Ongoing Classes, Events and Services

Artist-in-Residence:

The Artist-in-Residence (AIR) series contracts with local artists to place their work on display/exhibit in the library, provide lectures, workshops and demonstrations to community members of all ages. 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 honoraria and supplies for the artist. Beau Thomas served as our AIR from July 2-September 28 and attracted 57 people to a lecture, Graffiti Lettering workshop, and a live painting demonstration. His work was also featured in an exhibit and case display.

Cocoa and Coloring Nights:

Cocoa and Coloring Nights provide patrons with the opportunity to relax and socialize in an open environment. Group homes have brought multiple residents to enjoy this intergenerational program. This program attracts people of all ages and abilities. Friends funds support refreshments for this program and ongoing supply needs.

Monday Morning Matinee:

Monday Morning Matinee is a twice-monthly film series designed for persons with cognitive disabilities, but open to the public. Local group homes provide shuttle service for their residents to attend G-rated Disney films. We often see friendships develop between group home residents and members of Valley Packaging. The Friends fund refreshments and movie licensing fees.

Latino Fest:

APL staff and volunteers shared a table with Menasha Public Library at Latino Fest at Pierce Park in September. APL provided children with a free book and offered a temporary tattoo station. The mobile hotspot was used to demonstrate Hoopla on an iPad and show people of all ages how to access comics and Spanish language materials. Friends funds were used to pay for supplies for the event.

Lawrence University Into the Streets

APL participated in LU's Into the Streets event for first year students early in September. A group of students received a tour and discussion of library services and volunteer opportunities. They volunteered greeting and handing out coffee to patrons; straightened shelves and made buttons for Bazaar After Dark. Friends funds were used to pay for the button supplies and the coffee supplies.

Rhythms of the World

Rhythms of the World event showcased cultural music and dance from community members and groups in Houdini Plaza. APL staff were a part of the event planning team, assisting with connections to local music and dance performance groups and individuals. Staff and volunteers interacted with 87 community members at the APL outreach table and distributed "Libraries are for everyone" buttons. Appleton Police Department donated children's books that we distributed to children at the event. The

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mobile hotspot was used to demonstrate Hoopla on an iPad to people of all ages. Friends Cultural Programming funds were used to support the collaborative event and for button supplies.

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 events at the library and in the community. The teen program is designed to promote reading and creativity 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:

READsquared, our online SLP platform, lets patrons log their reading, play games, take part in missions, and earn digital badges for their accomplishments. The online platform makes the summer library program more accessible for patrons. Friends funds pay for the READsquared software.

1000 Books Before Kindergarten:

This year-round reading program encourages parents to read 1,000 books to their children before they enter kindergarten. Since April 34 have registered for this program. Friends' funds are used to purchase prizes for every 100 books read.

500 Books Before Middle School:

This year-round reading program encourages students from grades K-6th grade to continue the habit of reading. Since April 40 have registered for this program. Friends' funds are used to purchase prizes for every 50 books read.

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 to access of the library. Friends' funds, along with Valley Transit, pay for the bus fares.

Special Projects

APL Building Process Support:

A variety of tools to help support the building process were purchased with Friends funds. Those tools include; Smartsheets to keep projects organized, building process business cards to help staff promote the building process websites and gift cards to encourage staff to ask questions and provide input on the process.

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Summer Library Program Promotion:

Three summer library program banners were purchased with Friends' funds. These banners help promote the program while encouraging community members to sign up for the program.

Community Partnerships – Library Assistant Position:

This part time non-benefitted position has increased capacity for community engagement and outreach in the Community Partnerships section. Between July and September, we continued working with local employment and job-skills support agencies and programs, building relationships and engaging in one-on-one conversations to learn more about other organizations to determine opportunities for APL and potential collaboration. Through this position, we have coordinated and implemented outreach at various community evening and weekend events, making services available to library patrons, non-users, and underserved populations of all ages, and creating visibility for library resources. Friends' funds support this position.