

Adult Classes and Events

Flipside Concert Series

Our goal with this concert series is to highlight our FlipSide musicians, increase visibility for local musicians, provide access to local live music in a welcoming space, and to promote our FlipSide streaming service. During the second quarter of 2019, we hosted Erin Krebs, a jazz performer, in April, and Kurt Gunn, a folk/rock musician in May. These concerts were held on the library's main level, allowing an accessible and welcoming music experience that patrons were able to stumble upon. Friends' funds provided honorariums for both artists.

Fox Cities Reads

The 13th annual Fox Cities Reads selection was *Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City* by Matthew Desmond. The Reads initiative involved several community partners that led programming and community engagement around the book. Programming included a poverty simulation, community conversations about the topics, book clubs, and two presentations by the author. Community members, primarily adults, learned about the complexities of housing insecurity, racial and gender disparities in housing, and local issues in these areas. Friends' funds purchased books for library circulation, t-shirts for staff and volunteers, and a portion of the author's honorarium.

Morning at the Movies

Morning at the Movies is a monthly film series designed for persons with cognitive disabilities, but it is open to everyone. Local adult day programs and group homes provide shuttle service for their residents to attend G-rated films. The Friends fund refreshments and movie licensing fees.

Sunday Concert Series

We welcomed Elizabeth Eisen and the Chaminade Women's Chorus to the library in April. This series provides an enriching live music experience, primarily reaching the older adult population and those who utilize group transportation. Friends' funds provided an honorarium for the artists.

Teen Classes and Events

Anime Night

Anime Night is a monthly event for teens with an interest in anime and Japanese culture. Friends' funds provided an opportunity for teens to screen anime and create buttons based on their favorite anime images. Friends' funds also provided refreshments and materials for crafts.

K-Pop Club

K-Pop Club is designed for teens with an interest in aspects of 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

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build leadership and communication skills through this program. Friends' funds provide materials and refreshments for the K-Pop Club.

Pride Month Button Making

Staff visited the LGBTQ+ teen support group at The Space (Goodwill building – Menasha) to share information about the Teen Summer Library Program. As June is Pride Month, we brought a button maker and supplies, and the teens were able to design and create their own PRIDE buttons. Fifteen were in attendance and several comments were made about how fun the activity was. Friends' funds were used to purchase the button making supplies.

Simple Life Hacks for Teens

This program was divided into Hot Glue Gun and Decor and Duct tape. These simple life hacks gave teens skills they can use every day. The teens who attended this program learned how to think critically and re-imagine uses for everyday items. Friends' funds provided materials for this program.

Super Smash Bros. Ultimate Tourney

This program is designed for teens with an interest in gaming. Teens develop mentorships and friendships as they learn different aspects of the video game, Super Smash Bros. Ultimate, and earn prizes from winning the tournament. Friends' funds were used to purchase a Nintendo Switch gaming system, games, and equipment. Additionally, Friends' funds provide refreshments and prizes for this program.

Tween Classes and Events

April Maker Quest

The Maker Quest attendance continued to grow to 267 with April's Earth themed programs. The featured technology this month was light table exploration, earthquake simulators, and VR through the Oculus Rift, which was bought previously with Friends' Funds. This month we also had a visit from Master Gardener, Shirley Martin, who helped students with a fun seed project. We also experimented with wind, tried paper quilling, learned about bald eagles and pelicans with help from Heckrodt Nature Preserve, and much, much more. Thank you to Friends for the technology and supplies that support this program.

June Maker Quest

"Spy Academy" was the theme for June's Maker Quest program. This month's technology featured disguise work with the green screen, finding Carmen Sandiego on Google Earth with the iPads, a typewriter (which was an unexpected hit!), a metal detector, and Cubelets. Other projects included circuit fun making flashlights out of popsicle sticks, fingerprint identification, writing secret codes, invisible ink, making secret compartments, life-sized I Spy, and more. Thank you to Friends for the previously purchased technology and supplies that support this program. 162 people attended this program throughout June.

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Children's Classes and Events

I Am a Farmer Author Tour

On Saturday, April 6th, APL welcomed coauthors of the picture book *I Am Farmer*, Miranda Paul and Baptiste Paul. The book highlights an environmental hero from Cameroon, Africa, Farmer Tantoh Nforba. Farmer Tantoh himself also joined in for the visit. We learned about the challenges of farming in Cameroon, the lack of access to clean, safe water there, and how starting a movement can begin with very small steps. We also danced to Cameroonian music, did our own water bucket challenge, and saw some amazing images that highlighted the difference agriculture can bring to communities. It was an amazing family experience! Friends' funding sponsored the event and 44 people attended.

Kidz Expo

APL partnered with Kaukauna Public Library & Neenah Public Library to have a booth at the Kidz Expo on April 6th. The Expo gave us 2 booths for the price of 1. We gave away golden books supplied by United Way and offered STEM themed bookmarks for coloring and straw rockets for creating. One of our volunteers stayed with us most of the day doing yo-yo tricks. The books were gone by 1pm. Over 3000 people stopped by our table and about 6000 attended the event as a whole. Friends' funds paid for the bookmarks, straw rocket supplies & the registration fee.

Hmong Special: Paint Night

This program allowed caregivers and their children to experience 'paint night' together. Families followed step-by-step instructions to create a Hmong inspired piece. Children bonded with their parents while exploring their creativity. Providing incentives along with new and exciting programs encourages Hmong families to come back to our library and participate. Friends' funds paid for special supplies and food incentives. 28 people attended.

Bunny Party

On April 17, 97 parents and children attended our Bunny party, and had a hopping good time. We started with a finger play about bunnies and a draw and tell story. The children made crafts, played with slime, and had their faces painted to look like a bunny. Friends' funds paid for special supplies.

Dragon Loves Taco Party

On Friday, May 3rd, 96 children and parents attended our Dragons Love Tacos Party. We started the program by reading the book "Dragons Love Tacos" by Adam Rubin. Kids made dragon and taco related crafts, played with spicy salsa slime, and got temporary tattoos. The Dragon costume character made a visit to meet the children and take pictures with them. The families loved it and want to have it again in the future. Friends' funds paid for the dragon costume.

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Hmong American Day Celebration

We celebrated Hmong American Day on the evening of Wednesday, May 15th. Hmong history and culture were explored through stories, songs, and crafts. Participants made a traditional cucumber drink and planted cucumber seeds. Some children wore their Hmong clothes! 30 people attended the celebration and Friends' funds paid for supplies.

HMOOB Bilingual Storytime

Since January, Children's Services has been providing a monthly Hmong Bilingual Storytime for Hmong children. They get to practice their native language while building early literacy skills through stories and songs. Pizza is provided after Storytime. Hmong parents believe it's important to preserve the Hmong language, a large part of one's identity.

SLP Kick-off 2019

Tom Pease kicked off the 2019 Summer Library Program at APL with 4 shows. Two on Wednesday, June 12th for childcares and two on Thursday, June 13th for families. Tom sang several fan favorites to an audience of old friends and new ones as well. Funding for the Tom Pease shows was provided by Friends & a grant from OWLS. There were 584 attendees.

Rondini

Rondini's magic show brought mystery and fun to the library....as well as his rabbit friend Einstein. Friend's funds paid for Rondini, and there were 278 attendees

Miller & Mike Family Friendly Juggling Show

In space no one can hear you laugh, but at Miller and Mike's Universe of Stories Show the whole family was laughing loud and clear. Juggling clubs became gravity defying Rocket-ships, spinning plates became flying saucers, and yo-yos became UFOs. Miller and Mike did two shows on June 27. There were 187 attendees. Friend's funds paid for Miller & Mike.

Programs for All Ages

Juneteenth Festival

APL hosted a table at the annual Juneteenth community festival presented by African Heritage, Inc. We spoke with 189 people of all ages at the City Park event. Children's and Community Partnership staff and volunteers led a bookmark activity and registered people for the Summer Library Program. Friends' funds paid for the booth fee to participate in the event.

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

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community members of all ages. Our Artist in Residence for April and May, Emily Bowles, offered two events. In April, she talked about knitting and poetry and demonstrated fairy tale knitting. In May, she provided a children's event where she shared a story and taught hand knitting. Friends' funds provided the honorarium for the artist and knitting supplies.

Cocoa and Coloring Nights

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

1000 Books Before Kindergarten Prizes

This year-round reading program encourages parents to read 1000 books to their children before they enter kindergarten. Since April, 25 children have registered for the program. Friends' funds are used to purchase prizes for every 100 books read.

Symphony Storytime

April's Storytime featured Marisol Kuborn, percussionist extraordinaire! After using various rhythm instruments from around the world to provide the perfect accompaniment for the books I Got the Rhythm and Drum Dream Girl, Marisol expertly lead all the participants in a "jam," with drums, bells and shakers. Everyone got in the beat! 28 people attended, and Friends' funds paid for a portion of the performer's time. The rest is funded by the Fox Valley Symphony.

At June's edition of Symphony Storytime, we again welcomed Jennifer Hodges Bryan with her oboe and English horn. (This wonderful Fox Valley Symphony musician is also featured in the library's Flipside online music library!) Audiences at the two different Storytime's enjoyed owl stories and songs presented by Jennifer and Miss Kathleen and learned more about the woodwind family of instruments. Afterward, kids made their own reed flutes from straws and explored other musical instruments. Symphony Storytime is paid for in part by Friends funds, with the balance paid for by the Fox Valley Symphony Orchestra. 86 people attended the June symphony Storytimes.

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, 16 have registered for this program. Friends' funds are used to purchase prizes for every 50 books read.

Special Projects

Constant Contact

Friends funds pay for our mass email service provider. We use this service to email our subscribers information about library news, classes, services and more.

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Flower Garden Play

Friend's funds were used to purchase a set of build your own flowers for the Play and Learn program. They were first used on June 21st. The children really enjoyed rearranging the stems, flowers and stamen. It was so popular that there were several little ones waiting for a turn to play with them. There were 82 attendees at 2 Play and Learn classes on the 21st, and the flowers will continue to be used in Play and Learn and other programs.

Community Partnerships – Library Assistant Position:

This part time non-benefitted position has increased capacity for community engagement and outreach related to job skill and workforce development. Staff have coordinated and implemented outreach and engagement to create visibility for library resources. Staff recruited and trained volunteers to assist patrons with computer use. Staff have advanced plans for APL's job skill and workforce development initiatives, including opportunities for volunteers to provide further assistance.

Summer Library Program Merchandising

Friends' funds pay for our summer library program merchandising, including large hanging posters and window clings. The goal of the merchandising is to increase awareness and participation of the summer library program.