

Board Report-Youth Services for June 21st, 2018

In May, we offered 32 children's programs, 3 were cancelled (1 due to my not getting here because of storm damage and 2 because we changed the date of our staff meeting and were closed when those programs would have run). Our children's programs served 118 parents and 259 children. We also offered 11 teen programs, though 2 went unattended. Teen programs served a total of 43 teenagers. We had 7 teen volunteers this month that worked a total of 28 hours. The program with the highest attendance was our Star Wars Day celebration. I have a copy of the article that ran in the River Reporter about the event. If you didn't get a chance to see it, stop by and check it out.

Summer Reading prep is in full swing. Volunteers are starting to get the registration packets ready and are wiping down all the shelves, toys, & books so that the children's room is ready to go for the influx of people. Chelsea and Emily are working hard to prepare their programs for the summer and to get mini story times set up so that staff can go to the farmer's markets and represent the library there too. The annual summer reading newspaper, put out by RCLS, is already being distributed to our local schools. Copies are available in the children's room and at the front desk too.

I am pleased to report that our Battle of the Books team, The Novel Bunch, defeated their competition in the county battle on June 8th. They won all 4 rounds that they competed in. I am very proud of how hard they worked this year. They have informed me that they would like to take a break and not compete in the next battle, but do want to do the county one again next spring.

This month I attended Day of Dialog and Book Expo and got a chance to hear many authors speak about their work and about how important our work at public libraries is. Angie Thomas, the author of this year's Printz Award winning book, *The Hate You Give*, spoke about our responsibility to remain "distinctly not neutral" when it comes to racism and bigotry of all kinds and a panel of librarians spoke about how to build and highlight your collection of inclusive materials and maintain the library as a safe space for all. EPIC (Every Person Influences Children) held a picnic for families and, while I could not be there, Jane Sorenson, the director of EPIC did pick up flyers, calendar, summer reading info, and the summer reading newspaper copies to distribute to all of the families that came.

The computers in the children's room were used 71 times throughout the month of May and the teen computers were used 91 times. The AWE computers were used a total of 120 times this month. The WiiU was used by 76 teens. Our children's program room has been used 15 times this month for tutoring.

Submitted by:
Cheryl Jones
June 9th, 2018