
DATE: November 3, 2022

TO: Library Board, Pima County Public Library

Pima County Board of Supervisors
Pima County Administration
Friends of the Pima County Public Library, Board of Directors
Friends of the Arivaca Library, Board of Directors
Friends of the Esmond Station Library, Board of Directors
Friends of the Kirk-Bear Canyon Library, Board of Directors
Friends of the Oro Valley Public Library, Board of Directors
Friends of the Pima-Green Valley Library, Board of Directors
Pima Library Foundation, Board of Directors

FROM: Karyn Prechtel-Altman
Deputy Library Director

SUBJECT: Community Engagement Report – September, 2022

Pima County Public Libraries are celebrating Mes de la cultura, September 15 –October 15. This month-long celebration honors the culture and heritage of our Latinx communities. See Hassael’s report below for more details.

I am grateful to have had opportunity to attend a three-day professional development course *Foundations in Natural Foresight* from the Futures School <https://thefutureschool.com/> . Four of my PCPL colleagues have also participated in the training that was paid for by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) through the Connecticut State Library. Planning for the future in this way was eye opening and exciting. We are going to use what we learned as the framework for our next Community Impact Plan.

Latinx Program Manager – Hassael Cazesuz

This month, PCPL is recognizing and honoring the heritage and culture of our Latinx, Chicax and Mexican-American community members through our Mes de la cultura, September 15 through October 15. During this month, branches across Pima County are putting together cultural displays with literature and other visual homages to the rich culture.

On Mexican Independence Day (Friday, September 16,) the affinity team Nuestras Raíces as well as PCPL staff, put together a spectacular event titled *El Grito*. During this cultural event, Valencia Library hosted a commemorative ceremony of the Mexican Independence performed by the Mexican Consulate as well as local Mexican cultural performances from Mariachi Las Aguilas de Davis, Mariachi Los Diablitos de Sunnyside and Folklorico Los Diablitos de Sunnyside. Community members not only enjoyed these performances but they had Pan Dulce to share as well as coloring sheets with Mariachi and Folklorico dancers for the youth to take home and color. I would love to take this opportunity to thank all of the Nuestras Raíces and PCPL staff who were involved to make this successful event a resurrected staple event for our communities.

Program Manager for Literacy and Connected Learning – Kendra Davey

Leila Duncan had the opportunity to present to the teaching staff of Tucson Unified Virtual Academy, an online school option for TUSD students. Leila shared information about Brainfuse, our virtual homework help service, as well as several of our online databases and ebooks. Kendra Davey was joined by Brie Chillious from Quincie Douglas library and Wade Zelenak with the Bookmobile at the Tucson Children's Museum Family Love of Literacy event. We had a very fun early math activity that was enjoyed by kids from very young to the young-at-heart. We shared information about the ways that early math activities help support reading competencies.

Program Manager for Workforce and Economic Development – Ken Zambos

This month, Career Online High School library staff held a new student orientation to welcome seven new students to the program. The virtual orientation occurred on September 8, where students showed excitement about enrolling into the program and beginning this new chapter.

Four of the seven students chose the high school diploma program with the concentration in Home Care Professional as their career track option. Among the 10 career track options, Home Care has proved to be the most popular for students who have experience with care giving, medical assisting, or other fields in health care. These students shared their aspirations of attending college and furthering their education and careers in the medical field. Many of them have shared that they want to apply their experience and become Registered Nurses, but first they need to obtain their high school diplomas.

Students shared their excitement to find a program where they can do both: learn about the career they want to pursue while simultaneously working towards their diploma.