
DATE: January 5, 2023

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 – December, 2022

The Library department has joined several other Pima County Departments to respond to the current Humanitarian Crisis at the border. We are administratively assisting local non-government agencies in emergency operations involving the site logistics related to housing, feeding, and the transportation of asylum seekers. In December, Library staff worked 48 hours at the Casa Alitas Welcome center. Their duties primarily involved 'intake' of new asylum seekers, and staff who participate are paid from Federal funding currently earmarked for this work. We anticipate the need for assistance to grow when Title 42 is lifted.

I have joined the joint the multi-jurisdictional Prosperity Initiative work group, tasked with developing a set of evidence based policies that will guide long-term efforts to strategically address generational poverty, improve opportunity, and create community wealth while also addressing the immediate needs of those experiencing poverty. Members on the work group include representation from several Pima County departments as well as the Cities of Tucson, Marana, Oro Valley, Sahuarita, and South Tucson, and we are working with two researchers from the U Arizona Sociology Department. While the timeline is short – December 2022-June 2023, I expect the outcome of this work to have enormous impact on our communities.

Latinx Program Manager – Hassael Cazesuz

In early December, PCPL and the Nuestras Raíces team were involved in collaborating with international community partners in efforts to bring to Tucson, for the first time, the seventh Encuentro Internacional Comunicación, Frontera y Movimientos Emergentes. Essentially, partners from the University of Sonora in Sonora, Mexico, as well as academics and authors of Spain, organize an annual conference regarding U.S. and Mexico Borderland history and Culture. PCPL was honored to be asked to host the seventh conference and it occurred on December 2 and 3. This conference was a success and PCPL was able to contribute to the conference with PCPL staff presenting, hosting and bringing local community partners to participate such as Gertie and T. O. Boyz, Mariachi Los Diablitos Azules de SunnySide and Ballet Folklórico Tapatío. PCPL and Nuestras Raíces affinity team are proud of offering

culturally relevant programming to our diverse communities and the hope is that the conference will continue to be hosted in South Tucson for our communities to participate, learn and enjoy.

Library Services Manager, Community Engagement Office – Kendra Davey

CEO staff member Leila Duncan in partnership with Pima County Emergency Eviction Legal Services (EELS) has begun supporting temporarily unhoused children and families residing in temporary hotel housing. PCPL is providing a free book, a snack and weekly in-person activities. At a recent outreach, the children said they wanted to play a *new* game they just learned called Musical Chairs. They also made holiday ornaments to share with other EELS supported residents.

Program Manager, Communications and Systems Office – Reneé Bibby

Current projects

We're working on the following projects.

- Approval and Press-prep for the Annual Report
- Holiday closures
- Literacy Reads Materials
- Design for the Southwest Books of the Year

Mapping 2023

In the slightly slower times of year-end the team mapped out the projects for 2023. In the world of e-marketing that means planning out a full-year of messaging. Holly, Public Information Officer, and Reneé mapped quarterly messages for all eight affinity teams, factoring in key dates to correspond with affinity team focuses. Adding that to her regularly scheduled messages means Holly will send 107 messages in a single year. Mapping also included the schedule of work between the designer, Carolina, graphic design specialist, and Reneé, who pitch hits for design as the schedule gets busy. Carolina will continue to take on big projects, like the Annual Report, Southwest Books of the Year, Summer Learning, and the potential return of MegaMania for 2023. Social media continues to be strong and the mapping for 2023 includes new social Twitter plan for the Southwest Books of the Year when Ray, social media librarian will do more promo directly with writers.

Former Program Manager for Workforce and Economic Development, current Library Services Manager – Ken Zambos

Pima County Public Library's Career Online High School team is going through a transition period. This month, library staff are being trained to become part of the online high school program. Bringing more hands on deck, along with a fresh perspective to the team, will be a good way to continue supporting students in the New Year and beyond.

We are excited for these new changes as we wrap up this year for Career Online High School. We handed out three new scholarships this month, resulting in three new opportunities for students to achieve their long-awaited dream of receiving their high school diplomas. We also want to congratulate the 18 graduates who have accomplished this goal so far, as we wait for a couple more to finish before the end of the year!