
DATE: November 2, 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: Marissa Alcorta
Deputy Library Director

SUBJECT: Public Services Report – October

This month I have had the privilege of working on the Classification Review Committee for County's Class and Comp study. I am on a small committee that reviews employee's classification appeals. It's been an interesting process and large learning experience as a Pima County employee. I am doing the best I can to honor the employee's appeal and also the process set in place by HR. I'm happy to be part of the process.

I've also been working with the Public Services LSM's to continue to work on staffing coverage and supporting the recruitment process for LTA Supervisors and Librarian III's.

I had the pleasure of being the Admin representative for the Pride Team Author Talk with Kianna Alexander. It was a wonderful event and I was happy to do the introduction and show administrative support.

I will be attending the ULC Annual Forum (Urban Libraries Council) in Seattle, Washington this month. I was the one staff member to attend from PCPL and as this was my first time at a ULC event or conference I know it will be a wonderful learning experience where I make many new professional connections. I'm looking forward to it!

Library Services Manager – Paulina Aguirre-Clinch

October was a busy month with regularly scheduled biweekly and monthly meetings with managers. Topics of conversation included branch coverage, personnel changes, leadership among staff, and morale. The classification and compensation study appeals were also a major point of discussion.

Other notable meetings I attended included the Anti-Racist as well as Seed Library meetings. Nuestras Raíces leadership had its first planning meeting for the Tucson Festival of Books (TFOB). We discussed author invitations and possible panels. The list of potential authors is looking great! I also attended the first of two meetings regarding the re-imagining of the summer

learning program. I appreciate the library working hard to increase BIPOC representation in everything that we do as demonstrated by the work of these groups/committees.

I was also asked to serve as the hiring manager for our library technical assistant supervisor position. I'm happy to be helping with this important process.

Library Services Manager – Ken Zambos

During the month of October I met with Managers at the six locations I directly support in an ongoing effort to assist with planning, training, and other essential operations. As a member of the Library Presenter team, I also worked with other administrators to help collect information and process data related to contracted presenters, budgets, and information sharing. Additionally, I worked with members of branch leadership to create training opportunities for their staff in order to promote professional development. Along those same lines, I will be meeting with the other members of the Growing Our Own team, to discuss and plan new professional development events that we will offer to staff system-wide, during the next quarter.

Library Services Manager – Alina Rowe

This month was filled with Library coverage adventures. I was able to provide coverage to branches in need.

I had a couple visits to the Salazar-Ajo Library. First visit was to assist staff in placing all their books and other materials back on the shelves after the final repair was made to their building after a pipe burst the previous month.

My second visit was to meet with staff and spend the day team building with them.

Attended Affinity team meetings I oversee and provided support and guidance to our Many Nations team who are busy tagging materials on our website. Tagging materials will assist staff and the public locate materials that have been written by Native and Indigenous authors. Look for the tag Many Nations on our website and check out our lists!

My colleague and I met with the DEI manager for Pima County to help them connect with Native employees and community member in order to start planning a program the county will have for Native American month.

Library Services Manager – Em Demeester-Lane

This month I spoke at the Arizona Library Association annual conference about a project I have been working on with Joel Valdez Main Library co-Manager, Linde Furman. We received an LSTA Grant in 2022 to work on creating Trauma-informed responses and culture here at Pima County Public Library. Our Presentation, titled "Stronger Together: Trauma Informed Methods and Models to Support Library Staff" was standing room only and we were both approached to help other library systems throughout the state to help them apply these practices at their agencies.

Library Services Manager – Vicki Lázaro

I spent the month supporting our organization by covering management duties at Santa Rosa Library. I have continued to provide training and support for our new Librarian 1 at Santa Rosa. This has allowed me to continue to develop relationships with the community of Drachman School and Head Start, that share the campus with the library. Earlier this month, I was able to assist Miller-Golf Links with staff lunch coverage on a Saturday. I also have been providing in-person and Teams video check-ins with Dusenberry-River, Wheeler Taft Abbett Sr., Santa Rosa and Miller-Golf Links Libraries. I also attended an in-person staff team building event at Wheeler Taft Abbett Sr. Library.

Supporting administration by assisting branches with Class and Compensation appeals, attending and/or participating in the Collaborative Action Team Meetings, Policy Review Team meetings, Budget Review, PRIDE Affinity Team and Public Service Manager Meetings. As the lead of the PRIDE team I represented PCPL at the PRIDE Festival at Reid Park and also met with team leads to discuss restarting our Rainbow Storytimes in the new year. I also was able to attend the walk-through of the Martha Cooper Library remodel. It is going to be beautiful. The use of natural light and glass in the space was my favorite aspect of the design.

Supporting my professional development in my Library Services Manager role by attending webinars such as Burnout to Bliss: Transforming Workplace Culture, Revitalizing Morale: Cultivating a Supportive Library Culture and Ryan Dowd's Drunk or High: How to De-Escalate Someone Who Is Under The Influence, Advocating Digital Citizenship in Libraries.

District 1 – Supervisor Rex Scott

Dewhirst–Catalina Library – Christine Dykgraaf

Dewhirst-Catalina Library has been overrun with animals! Goats and Tucson Zoo animals visited for two different programs entertaining patrons of all ages. We also hosted for all ages the much awarded musical group Gertie and the T.O. Boyz. Over 60 people crowded in our partner location at the Catalina Recreation Center to listen and dance to Tohono O'Odham waila music! Children continue to arrive and be creative at our monthly Lego Build! and wooden Train Time programs. We are gearing up for being a location for quiet writing for the NaNoWriMo write a novel in a month challenge. Our banned books display has received lots of positive attention as has our latest display of horror and scary tales.

Dusenberry-River Library – Matías Torres

Dusenberry-River Library ends October with a new marquee sign up front just in time for the fall season. Our *Master Gardner* series program returned with *Cool Season Vegetable Gardening*. Child focused events included craft oriented *Plushy Halloween Ornaments* and *Seedy Calaveras*. *All Hallows Eve* was an event created in collaboration with *the Teenage Advisory Board*. *Get Ready for the Eclipse* was able to attract entire families and we were able to hand out hundreds of eclipse glasses owing to a partnership with NASA's Science Activation Program.

October is not without an abundance of a variety of other programs as well. Our *Toddler Storytime* and *Read to a Dog* program continue weekly. The options for teens included *Make a Pinback Button*, *How to Draw Cartoons and Comics with your BFF*, *Computer Gaming*, and *Bottle Cap Mosaics*. *Fighting Smallpox in Africa* was a sobering author talk for adult audiences. We also started a four part *Yoga* series and held *Exploring Core Values/Creating a Vision Board* to provide diverse choices. The continuation of *Art in the Afternoon* lecture series and *1-1 Tech Help* concluded offerings for adults.

Utilization of meeting room space by book clubs, writing groups, crafting collectives, students, non-profit organizations and homeowner's associations shows continues to highlight the space Dusenberry-River Library has within our community.

Nanini Library – Caitlin Burns

The sidewalk project which will connect Nanini's Shannon Road entrance with the Department of Motor Vehicles and the Library is underway and expected to be completed in late November. The roadway is temporarily reduced to one-way traffic. There has never been a pedestrian walkway connecting these sections despite people walking through this busy area all day, so customers and staff are grateful there will be a safer alternative.

Saturdays are typically Nanini's busiest day, and new programs have been added thanks to some eager and helpful community members. An Americorps intern has started leading a

weekly chess club for kids of all ages and skill levels, while a local Robotics teacher will be starting a tween/teen Dungeons and Dragons group. Both programs are happening in addition to a staff-presented Gaming and Lego programs happening monthly on Saturdays.

District 2 – Supervisor Matt Heinz

Eckstrom-Columbus Library – Kelly Wilson/Christine Russell

October went swimmingly at Eckstrom Columbus Library with exciting programming that hooked our local youth and adults.

The *English Language Learning* classes from Literacy Connects continue to be a popular draw, with the beginning class nearly full. The Tuesday classes overlap with our *Bilingual Drop-In Job Help*, so we are able to net some patrons with both programs on the same day. The monthly yoga class, with its emphasis on accessibility, is especially popular with our senior population. This month the *Eclectic Readers Book Club* read *Our Wives Under the Sea* by Julia Armfield. Attendance has grown steadily. Once readers are hooked, they return month after month. Finally, our adult art class this month was *Aquatic Origami*, where patrons learned to make origami shrimp, stingrays, or almost anything else under the sea.

After 3 o'clock our children and teen area is flooded with neighborhood kids on the hunt for our afternoon snacks, computers and programming. Chess Club and Code Club have been popular, with the all-ages *Columbus Chess Club* pulling in both adults and teens that are otherwise entranced by computer monitors. Teens and tweens got ready for Day of the Dead with Dolores Haro and her *Dia De Muertos Art* class. *Homework Help* has become so popular that our Library Program Instructor this month began a dedicated Reading Help in addition to the two weekly Homework Help sessions.

There's plenty going on for our youngest patrons too. Our Babytime and Preschool Storytime are regularly pulling in over 30 attendees per session. This month *Crafternoon* has attracted more kids every week. *Kidz Art Watercolor* supplemented our usual Crafternoon offerings, including Shrinky Dinks, Mod Podge with recycled jars and popsicle stick crafts, with their watercolor class on October 23rd. There was only one Read to a Dog session this month with Winston the British Bulldog taking a short vacation. When he returned, our kids were ready to pet and read to him.

Quincie Douglas Library – Lois Miller

We've been having a very busy October at Quincie Douglas Library this month. Staff made beautiful and thought provoking displays—the topics include Halloween, Banned Books, the annular eclipse (with cool glasses to view it), and more.

We've had lots of programming for all ages—children have enjoyed a visit from the Children's Museum with their Dino Discovery program, Fall crafternoon, Ready Set School and the regularly scheduled toddler storytimes. Teens loved special Halloween craft programming classes which included making 3D printer costume accessories, creating jewelry with the Connected Learning jewelry making kit, and making a coffin out of paper with a "ghost" lollipop tucked inside.

Adults loved making Japanese Style paper fans, and they are also enjoying a gentle yoga class with instructor Vivanne Uyeda.

The Quincie Douglas Center had their annual Trunk or Treat event for kids—our library staff helped out by giving out candy and books. The event was a huge success with lots of kids dressed up for Halloween passing through.

In addition to these special programming events, we continue to hold our biweekly ELAA classes with students attending from Mexico, Mauritania and other countries.

Several job help attendees have reported getting new jobs, which is very exciting news for all of us to hear.

Sahuarita Library – Betsy Langley

We've had lots of exciting programs happening at the Sahuarita Library in October. Families enjoyed a visit from the Desert Museum on October 4 and the Reid Park Zoo on October 18 – both standing room only with 70+ participants. Read to a Dog is going strong with Chihuaua, Molly, on Wednesdays and German Shepard, Rex, on Thursdays. Both dogs are great listeners and have developed a fan base of human friends. On National Chess Day (October 14), participants had fun eating cookies out on the patio while playing Giant Chess!

We're starting up some new Teen/Tween STEAM programs this fall, starting with Keva Plants and Cyanotypes, to try to engage more with our afterschool crowd.

The Sahuarita Book Club read *The Great Believers* by Rebecca Makkai this month and we're welcoming Bob Rosebrough on October 27 for a book talk about *A Place of Thin Veil, Life and Death in Gallup, New Mexico*, one of 2023's Southwest Books of the Year.

There are several displays up this month, including spooky books, banned books, and titles related to Family History Month. Customers are also taking home a scary Bingo reading challenge to stretch their skills.

Sam Lena–South Tucson Library – Lu Guerrero

The library's monthly programming this month was focused on creative STEM learning. Yusuke Banno's *Cosmic Space Painting* kicked off this series of programs in the first week, inviting community members to create galaxy-themed artwork. With *Messy Science: Reactions*, presented by the Tucson Children's Museum, participants learned about chemical reactions that create energy in the form of heat. Last in the series is *Ocean Habitat*, presented by Meg Balaconis, where participants learn about the habitat of sea turtles while creating sand paintings. Customers also continue to visit weekly programming, such as Afterschool Snack Time, Code Club, and Crafternoon times.

Staff attended Mission View Elementary's Family Literacy Night, meeting students and their families to share information about relevant library services and free books. Staff also tabled this month at the Santa Cruz River Farmer's Market. The library also hosted a visit this month from University of New Mexico graduate students. The group was interested in learning about the history and services of PCPL's Seed Library and were led through a tour of the branch's demonstration garden the system-wide seed collection and the Second Chance Seeds.

Santa Rosa Library – Vicki Lázaro/Michaela Grady

October is for outreach at the Santa Rosa Library. On October 14, two of our staff members attended a Solar Eclipse event at the Desert Museum. They were able to provide information to the public about library services as well as promote literacy through book giveaways. On October 25, we're looking forward to connecting with local families at the Santa Rosa Head Start Child Development Center Fall Meeting. We will provide book giveaways, crafts, and of course let them know about the exciting things they can find at their local libraries. Finally, on October 27, we will be attending a Halloween event at the Santa Rosa Recreation Center to promote library services as well as strengthen our community partnership with institutions in the area.

Our programs this month included Garden Kitchen, Meditation with Vanya, Lego Challenge, Bilingual Loteria, Steam Station Mondays and Spooky Painting. In addition to our many in-house and presenter programs this month, we have a few programs working with community partners. This is a great opportunity for us to foster community relations and introduce new users to library services! We will host a special puppet show presentation in conjunction with Santa Rosa Recreation Center. A Halloween story time with the Santa Rosa Head Start Child Development Center is sure to be a treat. Finally, we'll be joined by an instructor from Pima County's Natural Resources, Park and Recreation for a special creepy crawlers story time.

Santa Rosa Library's work with STEM is moving forward through use of library virtual reality equipment. Staff is exploring how to incorporate this technology into programming opportunities to promote STEM and literacy to our many tween and teen patrons.

District 3 – Supervisor Sharon Bronson, Chair

Caviglia-Arivaca Library – Jodi Ohlson

The Caviglia Arivaca Library was thrilled to participate in *Arivaca Human Resource's (AHR) Resource Fair*. Many of Pima County's community outreach services were there, and the library sponsored *Laughter Yoga* and *Spray tattoos/Balloon Animals* to keep the young ones busy as their parents explored the new AHR thrift store that had its grand reopening.

Throughout October the Caviglia-Arivaca Library Teen Advisory Board (TAB) hosted a *Halloween Art Contest*, which means we've had some fun things hanging around the library. TAB had a poster contest last year, and this year opened it up to 3D art too. My personal favorite was a rendition of a ghost's bedroom created in a shoe box, complete with two cute felt ghosts, furniture, art on the walls, rugs on the floor, and their pet frog (dried & *real*) that was sticking out from under the bed. Adorable, crafty, and surprisingly creepy.

In honor of October's Annular Eclipse we had a visit from the *Portable Planetarium*, which filled our children's section from shelf to shelf. Adults and children had a great time learning about the stars, and then left with free solar glasses to look at the eclipse later in the week. Our annual *shrine for Day of the Dead* has many new faces, which is often sobering and always honoring. Patrons frequently expressed their appreciation of the shrine ("It is the beginning of the holiday season when the Day of the Dead shrine is up!") and visited the library to add additional pictures.

Flowing Wells Library – Angie Grischkowsky

While helping a patron at the copier, the patron told a staff member, "I don't know what we would do without the library!" Hearing this, a different patron sitting at a nearby computer said, "Yes! I hope they never try to take that away."

Flowing Wells Library served our patrons with some great one-time programs in October! Make Your Own Slime happened on October 12th at two different time slots, due to the overwhelming popularity of this program the last time we offered it. We are happy to say that this fun science program oozed more smoothly, thanks to preregistration and an extra time slot! On October 12th, adults were treated to a short harp concert in our Multi-Purpose Room. We had 12 people attend, which is not bad for a mid-afternoon weekday event for adults.

On October 24th teens and tweens had the opportunity to learn How to Draw Cartoons from an expert in the field, and their creativity was flowing! October 26th we offered Sugar Skull Decorating, in advance of Dia de Muertos, and all ages appreciated this fun and informative cultural event. We rounded out the month with a Spooky Movie Party for teens on October 30th.

Teens had fun voting for what movie to watch from a pre-approved list of slightly-spooky favorites!

Our consistent events such as Storytimes, Read to a Dog, Homework Help, Crochet & Knitting Club, Computer Classes & Job Help, and Beginning and Intermediate English Classes all continued to draw regulars and new faces alike. We are thrilled to have such a robust schedule on offer for the Flowing Wells community!

Salazar-Ajo Library – Daniela Buchberger

In October the Salazar-Ajo Library supported the community in two major outreach events. The first took place at the Bud Walker Regional Park and as a community partner of the Pima County Natural Resources, Parks & Recreation, library staff distributed free books to children at the annual Trunk or Treat event.

On October 28th, library staff supported the Pima County Health Department and the Tucson Arts Council in the final Saludarte event at the Ajo Plaza. Visitors were able to learn more about library resources and children were able to paint on mystery paper with some unexpected results.

Library patrons were pleasantly surprised by the Salazar-Ajo's latest art exhibit by Francisco Norzagaray. Francisco's paintings are influenced by the natural beauty of the Sonoran Desert and his whimsical hummingbird characters brighten every visitor's library experience.

Additionally, library patrons were able to participate in new creative exploration. Dolores Haro led a painting class, in which visitors were instructed step-by-step on how to paint a morning cup of coffee. Library staff led a very successful Dinosaur Origami afternoon in which patrons were able to share their own origami experiences to learn and teach new skills. On October 25th library staff invited visitors of all ages to create Nicho Boxes. They are small hand-made ofrendas (shines), that are often included in Day of the Dead altars, as a way of rendering tribute to a person of great significance to the artist.

Wheeler Taft Abbott, Sr. Library – Sam Hennig

In children's services we have 4 elementary students attending Homework Help on a regular basis to get help with math and reading. Three adults have expressed interest in volunteering to provide reading help and are currently going through the training. We hope to start offering more reading help starting mid-November. Our read to a Dog continues to be a popular program. Each week, we have 7-11 children eager to read aloud or share a book with one of our three dogs, who alternate coming to listen to the stories, share their tricks and treat kids to a paw high-five or wagging tail.

October has had many activities for Teens. We have continued our passive program "The Quackening" which has increased interactions between teens who don't attend programs and staff a significant amount. On October 11th, the Teen Advisory Board came together for a special program to decorate the children's room and the front sidewalk of the library for Halloween. On October 13th, with the assistance of two of our Teen Advisory Board members, teen staff hosted an escape room that was attended by 16 attendees. On October 17th we hosted the program "Japanese Lantern Making" which was attended by 9 attendees. We still have a program scheduled for October 23rd to try out a new presenter as well. We have also moved towards mobile teen programming for T.n.T. so that activities can be done in the teen area then rolled away after the hour, this has increased engagement with teens who do not normally attend programs as well. Teen Services is looking forward to more programming booked in November as well as working with Teen Advisory Board to create their own programming rather than assisting with create programming. It is also a November goal to get

adult volunteers involved in Teen Tech Thursdays to utilize community knowledge in developing project for teen using the Cricut.

Adult services had a fun mask-making program in October. As the program occurred during the local schools' fall break, we opened the program to families and everyone had a wonderful time! Picture included.



Woods Memorial Library – Chinyere Olumba

October is Fall Fun month, a well-attended all age-inclusive *Minecraft Escape Room Event* was the highlight of mid-October programming for Woods Memorial Library, although it did garner more tweens than anything, but it was a fun filled engaging event that made chatter even chatter for television news. The event took place Saturday October 14th with time slots starting at 1pm through 4pm. Did I say October Fall fun! Indeed! Another event that had children and parents excited about Halloween was the Costume Swap event that was held on October 7th from 10:30am to 11:30am, which had a turnout of 35 little patrons. It was, an Oooh! Aaaaah! Moment.

Another, All-Inclusive event that Woods Memorial Library is looking forward to is our Halloween Bash, October 28th from 1:00pm-3:00pm. Games! Prizes! Fun for the whole family! The Desert Reptiles program with the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum.

What is also happening at Woods Memorial every Wednesday is staff collaboration on multi-generational programs like our TNT activities with microscopes, digital art using Wacom tablets, friendship bracelet weaving with cardboard looms, and stop motion animation, and a return to our Learning Lab for tech help, homework help, and job help.

Seeds! Seeds Seeds! Another great *Master Gardener* program that brought together 10 gardening enthusiasts. The program on Oct 16th focused on “Cool Season Vegetable Gardening”. Also, in the month of October, Learning is still taking place with both Woods Memorial *Read to a Dog* program which is held every Wednesdays and Saturdays, and with the *English Language Classes* on Wednesdays with *Literacy Connect*.

District 4 – Supervisor Steve Christy

W. Anne Gibson-Esmond Station – Mary McKinney

When Cox and Verizon services were out of order on Tuesday, October 10, it was clear that the surrounding community knew exactly where their nearest library is located. For the day's duration, people filled the tables, chairs, and outlets to regain connectivity.

Appreciation was expressed on Facebook by an attendee of the Arizona State Library “Every Child Read to Read” workshop held at the W. Anne Gibson-Esmond Station Library. In addition to Pima, Pinal County and Cochise County were represented by the 30 attendees.

During Vail School District's three-week break, the library held coding classes for kids, a yoga storytime, and a movie day.

Joyner-Green Valley Library – Heather Tyndall

With each passing day in October, more and more seasonal visitors return to Green Valley and join us at the library to browse the stacks, participate in programs, use computers, and enjoy reading magazines and newspapers. Our twice-a-week, drop-in *Library Resource and Technology Help* sessions are going strong along with other regular weekly programs such as *Mindfulness Meditation and More* and *Gentle Yoga Practice*. This month also featured two special *Family Storytime* programs: one focused on the eclipse while the other was a Jack-o'-Lantern Jubilee with pumpkin stories, pumpkin guts, and a costume parade. Library staff also made two outreach visits to Continental Elementary (K-8) School, including participating in their Family Literacy Night as well as conducting a pre-school Storytime.

Beginning in October, Joyner-Green Valley Library also began hosting two representatives from Pima County's Community and Workforce Development Office—one will be here the first Friday of every month and the other will come the third Monday of every month. We welcome these Resource Navigators who are available to help connect patrons with emergency housing, food resources, pet supplies, child care, rental assistance, utility assistance, employment resources (including resumé writing and job applications), and home repair assistance, among other services.

Kirk-Bear Canyon Library – Melissa Salazar

Kirk Bear Canyon Library continues to stay busy with programming for the month of October. We had four sessions of our Sensory Program which is geared towards neurodiverse children and features a calm down room. We had two sessions on October 3rd and two on October 17th. A total of 94 participants for this program this month. Our Family Storytimes are held on Thursdays, now with two sessions, and we average about 47 people for the first session and about 30 for the second session. On October 10th, we had the Mini Vets program, which allowed participants to hear a real horse's heart and gut sounds while learning how to check temps, and for to care of horses as a Vet does. On October 30 we had our Read to a Dog program which allows kids to read to a therapy dog to help improve their reading skills. This program allows the reader to experience stress-free and non-judgmental reading to a furry friend.

For adult programming at Kirk Bear Canyon Library, Pima County Master Gardeners from the University of Arizona Cooperative Extension put on an event called, Garden Talk: Cool Season Vegetables Gardening on October 13th, and participants learned what vegetables are best for sowing during the cooler season. On October 20th, we had a "Beautiful Harp Music Concert" given by Rebecca Foreman, who is a local musician/Harpist and the principal harpist with the Tucson Pops Orchestra. The Kirk-Bear Canyon Library Book Club had their book discussion on October 26, which is a very popular program for our adult programming. They are currently reading and discussing *Motherless Brooklyn* by Jonathan Letham.

Miller-Golf Links Library – Anna Lawrence

Have you ever gotten an email that looks a little bit fishy? Patrons came to learn about what is fishy or phishy at our Scam Alert class this October at Golf Links. This class was created for seniors and covered scams involving Social Security, Medicare, banking, social media, and more.

As part of our spooky season decor, staff set up a haunted books display. Books have been flying off the shelves, thankfully not assisted by ghosts. Patrons can also come to the Sugar Skull Decoration program to create a skull to take home. Based on previous years, we anticipate 50 or so participants!

Murphy-Wilmot Library – Kathy Konecny

Murphy-Wilmot Library was pleased to host a Sonora Environmental Research Institute's Rainwater Harvest Workshop. The workshop was a huge hit with 50 people registered and a

long waitlist. Customers were excited to learn about living more sustainably and help market the program by spreading the news with their friends and family. We look forward to hosting more programs on sustainable living in 2024.

Youth services staff kicked off the holiday season with outreach at the Ott YMCA's Annual Trunk or Treat event. Hundreds of children and their families learned about the library, won prizes, and enjoyed a treat or two at Murphy-Wilmot's table.

District 5 – Supervisor Adelita Grijalva

Frank De La Cruz-El Pueblo Library – John Muñoz

This month, El Pueblo hosted three great vendor-presented programs. Yusuke Banno taught kids and tweens how to raise chickens in any kind of backyard. Participants learned to keep chickens comfortable, well fed and properly supplied with water. Later in the month, Reid Park Zoo taught kids how people's actions can affect the survival of animals, inspiring them to protect animals by respecting their habitats. Finally, the Children's Museum (Tucson) presented Wee Can Count! Using *10 Little Rubber Ducks* by Eric Carle, kids practiced counting, played movement games and designed their very own duck, using different geometric shapes.

El Río Library – Em DeMeester-Lane (Interim)

El Río Library hosted an Origami program this month to great success. Staff were very excited to present "Origami Pumpkin Patch" where customers of all ages learned to make Origami pumpkins in celebration of the fall season. El Río Neighborhood Center is also undergoing a large scale sustainable landscaping project and we are excited to see the area beautified and using water in more environmentally impactful ways.

Himmel Park Library – Heather Ross

On October 16, Himmel Park Library hosted a writing workshop with author Karen Chow, in partnership with the Biblio Lotus committee. The workshop, titled "It's All About Character," walked attendees through character-building exercises and discussed writing techniques to make characters come alive on the page. It was a great event, much enjoyed by its participants!

Himmel Park Library resumed its weekly Chess and Lego Club this fall, a program that had been popular before the pandemic. We have slowly been rebuilding the club's audience, and this month we have had about nine attendees each week. Elementary school students and their parents are having fun making Lego masterpieces together, and occasionally a chess player stops by to play a game, too.

Joel D. Valdez Main Library – Linde Furman/Mikel Stone

Our staff are excited for Fall as the weather cools off a little and we look toward cooler months coming up. Days at the Joel D. Valdez Main Library continue to be as busy as ever, with many people visiting our location each day.

Outreach and library programming continue to be successful. We organized a Book Swap with the Historic 4th Ave Coalition on October 8th. Over 100 people swapped their unwanted books with one another and found new, exciting reads to take home.

Young adult services staff have been working with an AmeriCorps worker who has been helping run a chess club for teens and another chess club for adults, as well as helping us in the makerspace drop-in program we host for teens each day after school.

The Main Library's Our Space program also continues to grow and flourish. We regularly have partner organizations, including representatives from Pima County Health Department and

COPE Community Services, support by tabling at the program and providing critical information to our community members.

Main library was also open on Saturday October 14th, for the 50th anniversary of the Tucson Meet Yourself festival. We opened our first floor to festival goers and regulars alike, and we kept busy with library card sign-ups and Culture Pass check outs.

And, if you are in the neighborhood, make sure to check out our newly painted, colorful pillars. The palette is a familiar green to blue to purple color spectrum and it really energizes the whole space!

Richard Elías-Mission Library – Tara Foxx-Lupo

In October the Richard Elias-Mission library partnered with the Dr. Fernando Escalante Tribal Library to present a Yaqui Flower Making program. Participants will learn about the significance of this traditional Yaqui art and its significance within Yaqui culture. Skilled individuals will demonstrate the intricate techniques involved and those in attendance will leave with a beautiful handmade keepsake.

English language classes have gotten off to an incredible start with many participants who signed up on the first day of classes. This important program serves to help local community members better their English language skills in a safe and welcoming environment. An added benefit of this program is that it brings new faces into the library and many of those new visitors become lifelong library users.

This month the Richard Elias-Mission library will also be hosting the Reid Park Zoo and the Arizona Sonora Desert Museum. Reid Park Zoo will be presenting a Habitats Around the World presentation. Those in attendance will learn about how animals survive in different biomes and how we can help to preserve their habitats in the future. The Arizona Sonora Desert Museum will be presenting about the biodiversity of the Sonoran Desert and introducing participants to some of our animal neighbors.

Southwest Library – John Muñoz

This month, Southwest hosted three excellent vendor-presented programs. KidzArt taught teens how to draw, using easy-to-follow steps. The teens drew colorful drawings to take home. Later in the month, George McSly combined magic with storytelling. The kids loved it. During his stories, objects appeared, disappeared or floated, punctuating classic stories while linking reading with imagination and creativity. Finally, Dolores Haro led adults in the creation of 8" x 10" acrylic paintings, teaching them about color theory, basic composition and brush techniques.

Valencia Library – Ivonne Ramirez

October was a busy month at Valencia Library. The branch hosted 2 Sunnyside HeadStart classes and 4 Ocotillo preschool classes for a library tour and special storytime over three separate visits totaling around 86 participants counting children and their adults. The teachers and parents accompanied the preschoolers during an interactive story hour with the *Color Monster* and *Go Away Big Green Monster*, followed by a creative literacy extension activity featuring paper crafts and color ink blotters. After the library tour, the students and parents got brand new library cards and were able to explore the children's area for books and picture books to check out and take home. The kids and parents had a great time and after the visits, the teachers shared their appreciation with the Valencia Library children's staff for the work by the library in extending the learning and development practices that they are working on in the classroom.

The Valencia Library Children's Team and Nuestras Raices cohosted a visit by award-winning Author Xelena Gonzales. Xelena started out the day presenting a professional development

training, which was recorded for use by the Pima County Public Library Children's Team. In the afternoon, she premiered her new book *Remembering* along with a book signing and a cultural hands-on activity. The program incorporated movement, kinesthetic and musical ways of storytelling, and a cultural narrative around the upcoming Dia de Muertos Celebration and Dia de Los Inocentes.

Along with our programming and school outreach, Valencia Library has engaged adult learners in other parts of the community. Our Valencia Library manager participated as panelist in the University of Arizona College of Medicine panel presentation "Exploring Tucson's South Side Focusing on the Social and Other Determinants of Health through an Equity Lens." Ivonne represented the Valencia Library and spoke to the physicians in attendance about the library's role in supporting access to information and resources for various aspects of health, and how the work at Valencia Library bridges some of the inequities to health access for our community. Historically, the Valencia Library has served as a hub for community education and social justice around health topics including the health repercussions of living in the TCE Superfund areas, as well as other topics and resources. The Valencia Library has been a connector for on-site resource visits from the health department, a community-based diabetes support group, and children's advocacy groups, among others. We continue to coordinate on-site and offsite resource visits with a variety of service organizations as part of the library's ongoing mission to serve the community from within the community.

Activities funded by Friends Groups

Friends of the Pima County Public Library

Murphy-Wilmot Library- Yoga Babytime, Koi Fish Watercolor, Intro to Tye Dye
Frank De La Cruz-El Pueblo Library – Yusuke Banno, How to Raise Chickens; Reid Park Zoo, Respecting Habitats; Children's Museum (Tucson), Wee Can Count!
Richard Elías-Mission Library – Habitats Around the World, Storytime, Meet the Neighbors with the AZ Sonoran Desert Museum
Southwest Library – KidzArt, How to Draw; George McSly, Magical Storytelling; Dolores Haro, Acrylic Painting on Canva.
Quincie Douglas Library – Children's Museum Dino Discovery event, Reid Park Zoo, Red Herring Puppet Theater, yoga with Vivianne
Sam Lena–South Tucson Library – *Cosmic Space Painting, Messy Science: Reactions, Ocean Habitat*
Santa Rosa Library – Vanya Meditation, Red Herring Puppets
Salazar-Ajo Library – Whatever Wednesdays – Family Movie, Gaming, Magnets, Nicho Boxes, Origami and Painting
Valencia Library - Yoga with Vivienne Uyeda, Spanish for Staff with Connie Rodriguez, Tie Dye Program for Teens with Josuke Banno
W. Anne Gibson-Esmond Station Library - Coding 4 Kids, Yoga Storytime
Wheeler Taft Abbett, Sr. Library – Sylvia Friedman – What's Your Energy Type?, Lori Siegel – Storytime, Yusuke Josh Banno – Mask Making, Frank Powers – Comic Making, Dr. Alex Porter – Health and Fitness,

Friends of the Green Valley Library (Green Valley & Sahuarita)-Family Storytime, Jack-o'-Lantern Jubilee Storytime, Eclipse Storytime