
DATE: December 7, 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 – November 2023

The focus this November is beginning to talk about shifting hours at our library branch locations. We have received feedback from community asking for more variety in hour and access to our library locations, specifically on weekends and later in the evening. Our November public services managers meeting was dedicated to beginning to brainstorm some options for expansion of access. We met in person and broke up into regional groups, with the focus on finding ways to provide more access in a regional area. It was a productive meeting, where branch managers were able to interact (many for the first time) in person and share their vision for how their branches could further connect with their communities. Next steps are another meeting for each region then finalizing some options to begin shifting to and begin marketing and sharing with the public in new year (January).

Library Services Manager – Paulina Aguirre-Clinch

During the month of October, the Library's Many Nations team collaborated with the County's DEI Program to celebrate Native American Heritage Month this month of November. It was a beautiful event that counted on the presence of County Recorder Gabriella Cázares-Kelly and Supervisor Adelita Grijalva, a recitation of the County's Land Acknowledgement by our own, Maria, a blessing, and a beautiful poetry reading by another one of our own, Lindsey. As one of the administrative liaisons for the team, I was extremely proud of the wonderful contributions Many Nations made to this special occasion.

A great majority of my work this month centered on the Tucson Festival of Books (TFOB). I'm assisting our Latinx Program Manager, Hassael, with the coordination of author panels. The Nuestras Raíces committee is inviting approximately 15 authors to team up with at least another 15 authors (brought by other festival committees) to create a dynamic schedule of presentations. The next task will be creating titles and descriptions for these exciting presentations.

Library Services Manager – Ken Zambos

During November, I spent a considerable amount of time creating and presenting training for staff across the system. This included live on-line training, recorded self-directed training videos, and in-person training sessions at several library locations.

I also assisted with staff coverage at the Sahuarita Library, which was a great opportunity to work with staff directly, assisting with their daily operations, and helping members of the public utilizing the library. I also met with Managers to assist with branch budget planning for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Library Services Manager – Alina Rowe

As one of the Many Nation Affinity Team liaisons, I had the privilege of working with the Pima County Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion department to help organize an event honoring Native and Indigenous Pima County employees for Native American Heritage Month. One of our Many Nations Team members read the land acknowledgement and spoke about who our team is and what our mission, values, and goals are. Another member recited their beautiful poem at the event. There was also an elder of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe who shared a blessing and the county's recorder also spoke. The Many Nations team had a table with outreach items for attendees. The event was the first Native American Heritage Month program for Pima County, and we hope it is the beginning of a new tradition.

During our monthly in person public services meeting, I was able to help facilitate discussion in one of the groups of branch managers to discuss the possible hours of our libraries.

I was able to provide help with coverage at the Oro Valley Branch and I was able to attend the El Pueblo Branch staff meeting.

Library Services Manager – Em DeMeester-Lane

This month I continued to train our new librarians and provide leadership to El Rio library while they await a new Librarian II. I also had my quarterly in-person meeting with the branch managers who report directly to me. I worked with the other Public Service LSMs and our Deputy Director to put together our first in-person Public Service Managers meeting in over 3 years. It was a success, and I am looking forward to more in the future. I also met with our partners at Community and Workforce Development to confirm details on an internship program to expand job opportunities with the library. Our admin team has been working on the new budget and guidelines for programming spending and I attended meetings and trainings on those subjects as well.

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. 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. Performance Appraisals and new Performance Plans are in the works, as well as resume feedback and more to help with those staff members interested in promoting within the library into open job opportunities this month.

Supporting administration by assisting branches with a better understanding of the Master Presenters spreadsheets, attending and/or participating in the Collaborative Action Team Meetings, Policy Review Team meetings, Budget Review, PRIDE Affinity Team, Library Planning Task Force and Public Service Manager Meetings. In addition, I helped facilitate a three hour conversation with our library branches about the possibility of offering more hours to the public with the existing number of staff and what that may look like geographically. I participated in the Leadership Learning Lab Brainstorm and Planning Session developing leadership modules for our management team. I supported Pima County's Equity, Diversity and Inclusion team by attending the beautiful Native American Heritage Event at the Pima County Courthouse. As the administrative lead of the PRIDE team I represented PCPL at the University of Arizona Tree Ring Lab event titled Queerd Science. This outreach event allowed me and

Casey Short, the Team Lead, to connect with over 100 persons at the event. This was a sold out show at the Hotel Congress and they donated \$400 to the Pima County Library PRIDE Team from the proceeds. The huge crowd cheered loudly when it was announced that they were making a donation to the Library PRIDE Team!

Supporting my professional development in my Library Services Manager role by attending webinars such as Bringing AI Literacy to Life, Cultural Competence: Embracing a Culture of Belonging, Book Banning in the U.S. and the Positive Impact of Diverse Books and Supporting Individuals Who Are Transgender/Nonbinary. Attended the monthly REFORMA meeting and am excited about planning the next Dia del Nine and participation in the Tucson Festival of Books with Nuestras Raices.

District 1 – Supervisor Rex Scott

Dusenberry-River Library – Matías Torres

November has the Dusenberry-River Library ready for the holiday season. The circulation off our regular staff picks display alongside monthly displays proved to be a success as does the space we have reserved for new children's books display. With the support of Interfaith Community Services, we have also created a highly visible area for food donations. Staff also gave all of themselves at weekly *Toddler Story Time* and *Read to a Dog*. We could not have been happier that the Miniature Museum hosted *Miniature Sketchbook Workshop*. Our bi-weekly *Teen Advisory Board* meeting continues to engage teen volunteers. *Plushy Sewing* attracted craft minded youth while *Mini Vets* grabbed the attention of miniature horse lovers and veterinary science enthusiasts. Monthly *Art in the Afternoon* and *Master Gardner* programs continue to fill meeting room with patrons. Patrons have also expressed support for continuation of *Yoga* series. Students, Homeowners Associations, Crafting Collectives, Writing Groups, Book Clubs and Civic Organizations avail themselves of any time the meeting room is open.

Oro Valley Public Library – Kaitlyn Sparks

In November, Oro Valley saw the return of many of our winter visitors, making it a busy month. We've been helping patrons with their e-books regularly, as well as checking out many physical library materials. Our Culture Passes have been in high demand now that more people are aware of them. One customer stated that they were grateful for the Culture Passes, which made it more affordable for them to try out different cultural institutions.

Our Teen Advisory Board has been very active at the library presenting programs to other teens and Oro Valley community members. Some of our members volunteer their time to teach others how to use the 3D printer and at the end of October, they produced an Escape Room for families, which had over 40 participants. One of the parents said that it was fun and asked if we could do this every year! The TAB spent most of November planning for spring activities.

At the beginning of the month, the Friends of the Oro Valley Public Library had their Fall Book and Jewelry Sale at the library, which ran November 1 -4. The first day was the biggest day they'd ever had in their history. The sale brought many customers into the library and made over \$20,000 to fund library events and programs! The Friends of the Oro Valley Public Library recently commissioned two bronze sculptures of the tortoise and the hare which welcome visitors to our Friends Plaza on the north side of the building. The sculptures were designed and fabricated by Trevor O'Tool. We invite everyone to come check them out and take photographs with them.

District 2 – Supervisor Matt Heinz

Eckstrom-Columbus Library – Kelly Wilson

Over here at the Eckstrom-Columbus Library we are Falling into the Holiday season. In honor of Native American Heritage Month, we tripped the light fantastic to *Gertie and the TO Boys*. Over 65 people enjoyed some Tohono O'odham history and cultural music for a wonderful start to November. We had a *Crime Fiction from the Desert* talk with local authors, which was enjoyed by an enthusiastic group of local sleuths. Our monthly *Eclectic Readers book club* and *Adult Yoga with Vivianne Uyeda* were attended by regulars and some newcomers alike. Both Beginner and intermediate English Classes with Literacy Connects continue to be popular and well attended along with our weekly bi-lingual Job Help.

Afternoons at Eckstrom Columbus are dominated by our youthful, afterschool neighbors who join us for Snack Time, computers, board games, Homework help, Code Club, Chess Club, Crafternoons and Read to a Dog. Every day has a different offering of stimulating engagement for our young library users. Julia Miller brought us a *Creative Bookbinding* for the teens and tweens who really enjoyed learning a new skill and taking their creations home. Our very popular Preschool and Baby storytimes continue to connect new parents and children alike. Both storytimes expand their reach by offering a bi-lingual session once per month. Here's to a peaceful season of joy and kindness.

Quincie Douglas Library – Lois Miller

November has been a busy month here at Quincie Douglas Library. We've had a lot of children's, teens' and adult activities. We recently started up our afternoon snack program with the Community Food Bank—children ages 1-18 have enjoyed getting snacks every afternoon—the leftover snacks go to adults in need of food as well.

Children and parents have enjoyed going to programming such as Fall and Thanksgiving Crafternoons. Teens attended an educational craft event where they made paper lanterns with presenter Emy. Our teen staff also held a card making activity for teens to make greeting cards to send to their friends and family.

Adults have taken advantage of our job help program. Today two applicants came and left with resumes and completed job applications to Walmart, Savers, and a couple of senior centers. A Spanish speaking customer came in and asked about finding information about his deceased father. Our adult services LA Escarlen, who is bilingual, helped him to navigate the library edition of Ancestry.com. The customer was thrilled to find his father's death certificate through census reports. He also found out that he has two older siblings, something he never knew about. The customer was extremely grateful for Escarlen's help at the library. He said, "Que bonito ser bibliotecario!" (How wonderful it is to be a librarian!)

We have enjoyed having the help of an excellent graduate school intern this month. Brianna Velador has been helping our children's librarian with all of her programs and events. Five children graduated from the early literacy program Ready, Set, School, which was led by children's librarian Brie and the library intern. The program was very well received and the children learned many early literacy skills which will help them succeed in Kindergarten when they are old enough to attend regular school.

Sahuarita Library – Betsy Langley

Sahuarita Library staff attended the Town's Spooktacular event, connecting with over 2,000 residents and giving away dozens of books and information about the library. The Sahuarita Library has been busy with some new teen programs this month, including tie-dye and zine workshops, as well as a very popular Virtual DJ program with participants asking for additional opportunities to practice what they learned. Our weekly Read to a Dog and What's Up Wednesday craft program continue to be very popular with families on early release day.

We held a Didgeridoo program with Bob Effertz on November 4 with over 30 participants learning about Australian Aboriginal Culture and Art and how to use the instrument. Families were able to make their own instruments to take home to make haunting sounds and vibrations. We've also created several book displays in honor of National American Heritage Month. Staff have recently begun planning another Maker Fair in partnership with Sahuarita High School, which will take place in the new year. In late November, our Beginning and Intermediate English Language classes (taught by Literacy Connects) held a yummy brunch celebrating the accomplishments of the fall session.

Sam Lena–South Tucson Library – Lu Guerrero

In November the library hosted *Paper Flowers and Papercraft*, presented by Yusuke Banno. Participants created unique and decorative bouquets by shaping paper into realistic stems and petals. Jeanine Colini also presented *Draw Your Favorite Sonoran Desert Bird* this month, inviting guests to learn about and draw their favorite native desert bird.

Through a collaboration with the community food bank, the library also provided dozens of winter plant starts to customers. Staff have noticed an uptick in public interest for COVID Test Kits. Children's SnackTime, Crafternoon and Code Club programming have been well attended.

Santa Rosa Library – Michaela Grady

We began the month of November strong at the Santa Rosa library with two presenter programs on November 1. In the morning, we were thankful for our partnership with the Santa Rosa Recreation Center who allowed us to use their space for a special Magic Show, pulling in more community members than we can accommodate in our large meeting room. Later in the day, our partners The Garden Kitchen presented an active Bingo program. We didn't slow down from there! Throughout the month we've had plenty of in-house programs including our weekly STEAMsational Mondays, our bilingual story times, and the teen and tween favorite, Loteria. Later this month we welcome more presenters for tattoos and tie dye!

District 3 – Supervisor Sharon Bronson, Chair

Caviglia-Arivaca Library – Jodi Ohlson

November has gone by in a flash! With Snowbirds returning, programming has ramped up and it has been a joy to welcome all back to Arivaca and the Caviglia Arivaca Library. Historically, it is in November when I try some 'wild cards' as far as programming. Alongside our usual offerings of readers advisory, book clubs and school visits we've had a writing group, Mah Jongg lessons, The Peace Corps, and an Introduction to Chat GPT. We are developing a new partnership with Valley Assistance Services (VAS) out of Green Valley. Once a month a nurse and assistant will provide blood pressure checks and intake services. VAS's expansion of services into Arivaca will improve access to health education, assistance getting to medical appointments, and coordination with the other services their volunteers offer. For example, we were able to help an elderly woman in Moyza get handyman to help to repair her leaking roof and repair her water line which has been broken for over a year. All at very low to no cost. Some days "...nothing happens here but miracles." (Mabel Dodge Luhan)

Our Teen Advisory Board (TAB) has been busy finishing up the judging of all the entries for their Halloween Art contest. They had entries from the Arivaca Preschool, San Fernando Elementary in Sasabe, many local homeschooled teens, and several adults! All entries were available in the library for the community to see. Now the TAB group is working in earnest to have their holiday escape room ready. Our meeting room will become the home of the Grinch, and the teens are collaborating to come up with the puzzles, questions and hints to keep participants busy.

Flowing Wells Library – Angie Grischkowsky

If the calendar year was a symphony played by an orchestra, November would be a time of tempo change, with some instruments counting measures of rest in preparation to rejoin the song a few bars down. And November at the library is no different.

Our fall Beginning and Intermediate Language Learning Classes came to an end, but they will resume in late January. In the meantime the Intermediate class began an informal, student-led Conversation Club so they can continue to practice during the break. Likewise our Computer Classes and Job Help took a planned break during the last two weeks of the month, but will be back again in December.

Our two storytimes have each continued to hover right around 20 people each week, which hits the sweet spot for Toddler/Preschool Storytime, and is just under room capacity for Babytime. Read to a Dog is more popular some weeks than others, depending on how many kids are in the branch each day, although each of our celebrity dogs has developed their own small fan clubs of kids who ask for them by name. Our YA Knitting and Crochet Club on Friday afternoons also continues to draw a small but devoted crowd, and occasionally lures patrons from across town who want to practice or learn new skills, and we are always glad to have them!

One of this month's high points was the Mini Makerspace, which was a collaboration between our Childrens and Tween/Teen Librarians. 17 kids, tweens and teens attended to make buttons, work with the 3D printer, create custom stickers, make bracelets, zines, and more! Interest in the 3D printer was particularly high, and our Tween/Teen Librarian has plans to begin tutoring some of the basics of 3D design during future Homework Help sessions.

The events that seem most in demand with every age level of our community are those where there is the opportunity to learn, make, or do something new. Additional events this month falling into that category included an acrylic painting workshop for adults with Dolores Haro, a Harp Music Workshop for teens, and an outdoor bubble party for kids and families, as well as a Thanksgiving Crafts program.

Salazar-Ajo Library – Daniela Buchberger

During the month of November the Salazar-Ajo Library had an upswing in patronage and several programs took place, drawing in quite the crowd. A new art exhibit by artist Dolores Haro is now available to view in the library. Several community organizations utilized the meeting spaces available in this library in November.

Children and adults of all ages were able to participate in our Whatever Wednesday programming and the children's gallery space is currently displaying patrons' work. In this library we are celebrating Indigenous Heritage Month with the Grab and Go activity Traditional Tohono O'odham Singer.

The School Pantry through the Community Foodbank of Southern Arizona continues to see high demand and members of the public frequently thank library staff for having this essential resource available and accessible in the community.

At the end of the month Ajo Head Start came for a visit and children were able get their first library cards, read books and even got to participate in the scavenger hunt throughout the library. Everyone had a great time and lots of smiles were shared.

Wheeler Taft Abbott, Sr. Library – Sam Hennig

November was a busy time for programming at the library. We are grateful to our Friends of the Library whose funds made several programs possible for our community.

Two popular programs for adults where participants gave great feedback were Learn to Draw with Artist Jeanine Colini and Healthy Houseplants in the Southwest with Dr Jacqueline Soule.

Our Young Adult Librarian has worked closely with the Teen Advisory Board to change up passive programming for teens. The Teen Advisory Board will be working with the 3D printer to print out giveaway ducks to introduce other teens to 3D printing. We hosted two new presenters, Lori Jo Siegel and Nora Jones, who presented their programs, Hand-Sewing and Expressive Art, which attracted a mixed age crowd rather than just teens.

In children's services, we hosted several popular programs, including a music and movement storytime for preschoolers and an art and storytime for toddlers with presenter Lori Jo Siegel. Upcoming programs at the end of the month will be Air-igami with Nathalie Mornu and Play the Didgeridoo with Bob Effertz.

Woods Memorial Library – Chinyere Olumba

On the heels of busy October, where we have seen 160 patrons for the *Halloween Bash* program and 30 young patrons for face-painting and over 20 families for the *Minecraft Escape Room* program, Woods Memorial Library had a busy month.

It's November and Woods Memorial has seen an uptick in *Woods Memorial Homework Help* program from 0 patrons to 3 youth patrons. *Woods Memorial Baby Time*, weekly held on Friday's and Family Story Time, weekly held on Thursday's has had a constant flow of 15 young people. Woods Memorial also had a visit from the *Arizona Sonora Desert Museum* for Storytime on November 17th at 10:30am.

What is still continuous and going strong is Woods ESL class with Literacy Connect which has been consistent with 22 patrons, weekly on Monday's and Wednesday's.

It's the Month in which we started thanking and giving, Saturday, November 18th, started our *Make-a-Gift series event* with design a mug/tumbler cup which was from 2:00pm until 4: 00pm. With a continuation of the series throughout the month of December.

Woods Memorial *Read-to-A-Dog program* expanded this month to include two new weekly teams plus one team in the wings as a fill-in substitute. With soon-to-be three teams on Wednesday afternoons, this month we brought our *Read-to-a-Dog program* to an area elementary school. The kids were super happy to have this rare opportunity to practice reading in such a fun way. The principal reported that a survey taken by her students showed that Read-to-A Dog garnered more votes than any other activity! We hope to make this a regular event. So, I will end out November with Thanksgiving with a special thanks to the Woods Team from the Cyclovia Team, "Woods Memorial Library- Thank you for continuing to be a caring and supportive resource in our community. You all are always so generous with space, time, support, and involvement. Thank You for all you do... it means the most! -Kate"

District 4 – Supervisor Steve Christy

W. Anne Gibson-Esmond Station – Mary McKinney

The first session of Treats & Titles took place on November 3. Attendees enjoyed refreshments while listening to short summaries of adult and YA titles in the library's collection. After the program one of the attendees remarked that she had a list of holds she planned to place.

Gibson-Esmond Station hosted a special performance of Tohono O'odham Waila music presented by Gertie and the T.O. Boyz on the afternoon of November 14. Some women in

attendance remarked to staff how much they love the band, and one of the women said that they drove across town to see the performance.

Joyner-Green Valley Library – Heather Tyndall

This month Joyner-Green Valley Library patrons embraced the return of our popular series of Art Talks presented by docents from the Tucson Museum of Art; a presentation entitled “Hohokam Art: The Art of the Hohokam Culture” kicked off the series of 12 docent talks that we have scheduled over the next seven months. In addition, our monthly *Music @ Your Library* program provided extra fun as the nine-member group, the Desert Ukes, not only played “the goldies” on their ukeleles but also supplied songbooks, turning the concert into a fabulous audience sing-along!

Since May, PCPL has provided access to a monthly, live webinar during which library customers can learn how to use the Libby app on their electronic devices to search, borrow, and read e-books available through the library. In an effort to make this learning opportunity more accessible, Joyner-Green Valley Library staff started hosting group viewings in our Large Meeting Room of the “Getting Started with Libby” webinar. In this way, the library offered support to patrons who enjoy learning alongside their peers, who may have limited Internet access, or who may be unfamiliar with webinars. On November 15, participants left our fourth such group viewing excited to begin exploring the world of e-books!

We wrapped up the month hosting our second American Red Cross Blood Drive in the branch's Large Meeting Room. In this time of giving thanks, donating blood seems like a wonderful way to show gratitude for one's own good health. Both the American Red Cross and Joyner-Green Valley Library extend a special thank you to everyone who participated.

Kirk-Bear Canyon Library – Melissa Salazar

Even with the holidays coming up, Kirk Bear Canyon Library is still staying busy with programming for this month. 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 November 7th, and two on November 21st. Our Sensory Programs tends to be quite popular at this branch. 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. We have extended the max capacity to 50 person so that we stay within fire code and participate can enjoy and not have too many distractions.

For adult programming at Kirk Bear Canyon Library, we had a Jazz Trio November 17th with Cynthia Hilts, who plays piano and sings with her group (saxophone and bass player). Cynthia is an internationally renowned jazz performer and composer, and a passionate teacher.

Miller-Golf Links Library – Anna Lawrence

During the month of November, Golf Links has been hosting a weekly writing session as part of National Novel Writing Month, also called NaNoWriMo. Aspiring writers can bring their laptops, or use one of ours, to gather for two hours in the meeting room and have uninterrupted writing time.

The first Saturday of the month, a bird expert from Tohono Chul came to give pointers to identify birds of southwest deserts. The was our most well attended program of the month, with many participants excited about going out to find birds on their own.

Another successful Saturday program hosted Peter Biedermann playing guitar in a hybrid, contemporary style with elements of American, European, and other world influences. He also played some original music from the mid 80's.

Golf Links this month has also started a Reading Help program, designed for all ages who would like a partner to sit with them while reading for encouragement and assistance. This program is in the beginning stages but has seen some success already! Trained volunteers staff this program and are ready to help adults learning English, children struggling to keep up in school, or anyone who wants another pair of ears on their oration.

Murphy-Wilmot Library – Kathy Konecny

Forty members of the Tucson Women's Club listened to a presentation about library services and resources. Members learned about everything from digital downloads to checking out seeds. The members were very grateful for the outreach visit and excited to try out library services.

The Pima Health Department provided addiction information to 23 customers in November. Customers were also given Narcan and fentanyl test strips. We have seen a tremendous increase in opioid use and have been grateful to the Health Department for providing this service.

Twenty-six English Language Acquisition students completed their fall semester. They enjoyed a lovely celebration with food and friends. We look forward to offering both the beginning and intermediate classes in the spring.

District 5 – Supervisor Adelita Grijalva

Frank De La Cruz-El Pueblo Library – John Muñoz

This month, staff hosted Jacqueline Barrios (UA, Public and Applied Humanities) and her roughly 30-person class. They continued their work, interviewing people throughout the center to learn more about the community and the murals found throughout. At the beginning of the month, library staff participated in an outreach event that commemorated the Day of the Dead altar built in the courtyard nearby (adjacent to Representative Grijalva's office). In addition to Bilingual Family Storytime, Lauren Ard and her Portable Planetarium visited ELP, as well as the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum, to present a musical storytime.

El Río Library – Em DeMeester-Lane (Interim)

El Río library is very excited to start serving after school snack. After a great summer serving breakfast, we are the newest location to add an afternoon snack program and so far it's been a great success. We are partnering closely with the Food Bank as well as the Neighborhood Center for storage. El Río KIDCO brings children over every afternoon and they enjoy the library while getting their afternoon treat.

Himmel Park Library – Heather Ross

This month Himmel Park Library has been sharing all that the library has to offer with some of our newest Tucsonans. Our Adult Services Librarian hosted library tours for the students in our *Intermediate English Class* and for groups from the International Rescue Committee. The English Class students learned about resources they could use to keep studying during the class's winter break, the International Rescue committee groups discovered the Welcome to America webpage, and all attendees had the opportunity to sign up for library cards. The new cardholders were excited to start perusing library resources, such as the Culture Pass program and the World Languages collections offered through Overdrive.

Twice in November, Martha Underwood and her son Zach came to teach Chess Fundamentals to an all-ages group. Some had never played chess before, and some were experts. One of our students from the Intermediate English Language class learned about the program during her

tour of the library, and she and her son both attended the program. Martha and Zach will teach two more chess classes in December.

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

To start off, it is worth mentioning that our LTA Supervisor Kyle Weekly returned from leave after the birth of his healthy and cute new son. We missed him, and things are running smoother with him here, and we now enjoy looking at baby pictures. In joyful building news, all Main Library's structural pillars on each floor have been painted in bright and cheerful Pima County Public Library colors and this has livened the space and brought in some needed whimsy.

Our third Youth Mental Health Resources event for teens was held on November 8, and was a big success! Five community organizations tabled in the 101 Space providing resources related to youth mental health, suicide prevention, substance abuse, firearm safety, peer support groups, LGBTQIA+ resources, job support and more. Organizations present included COPE Thrive: Youth and Family Services, the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), PPEP (Portable Practical Educational Preparation, Inc), Goodwill Metro and the Tucson Indian Center. Library books and resource materials related to youth mental health were also available. Around 50 teens attended the two-hour event.

The Our Space program is going strong with between 30-50 patrons attending each program. This Month we invited Larry Worster and his Hardscrabble Road Vintage Rock Band to play music for our houseless patrons and everyone really enjoyed it. We held this program in the new Tortolita Room on the 3rd floor of the library where we had a beautiful view of downtown while visiting and enjoying each others' company. We also had the Pima County Health Department and a representative from the organization COPE Community Services tabling with us. We handed out bagged meals provided by Caridad Kitchen, served our patrons some refreshing beverages, and provided snacks to 30 members of our community during this twice monthly hour-long event.

We'll close with the sharing of one of the most heart-warming stories we have to offer this month. Early one Fall morning, one of our regular customers was outside the library and watched someone drive up and abandon a beautiful gray tabby cat in front of the library. One of the facility workers at our location contacted someone they knew who had recently lost their cat. Within an hour or two, our feline library friend found a comfortable new home with their new person. They have lived very happily ever after together since that day and our staff is overjoyed to receive periodic updates on the furry friend we all made!

Richard Elías-Mission Library – Tara Foxx-Lupo

To express our gratitude to the community this Dino-ember, the Richard Elias-Mission Library is offering a variety of activities and programs to spark people's interests and foster their creativity. For those looking for options to be creative, we offered a Dino-rigami program, Cosmic Space Painting and a Button Making program taught by our new Young Adult Services librarian. Kids, Teens and Adults were able to enjoy these crafty offerings throughout the month, taking home their very own creations to show to family and friends.

In our efforts to invite the community in, multiple librarians have ramped up outreach efforts in the community. For the young adult crowd, regular visits to Cholla High School are helping to bring awareness to teens in the area. We have recently onboarded three teen volunteers, a sign that these outreach efforts are having the desired impact. In addition to Cholla, Pistor Middle School invited our staff to their parent information night to promote resources like homework help and tween program offerings.

Our adult services librarian has also been reaching out, with a recent visit to Tucson Estates to promote library services. Other efforts geared to the adult community have included a Grant

writing Workshop and a panel presentation from local mystery writers. In addition to these efforts, starting this month Pima Animal Care Center will be visiting once a month to distribute pet food to those who need it in our community. The first visit went well, and customers appreciated this access to support for their furry family members.

Gertie and the T.O. boys will be at the Richard Elias-Mission Library just before the Thanksgiving Holiday weekend for a performance that is sure to be a great time. Our branch staff and community members love their Waila style and, while there isn't a dance floor, we expect some folks will be dancing in their seats.

Southwest Library – John Muñoz

This month, the library hosted two interesting programs. DINO-rigami allowed kids to return to the Jurassic to learn how to fold origami triceratops, pterodactyls or stegosaurus. Later in the month, Meg Balaconis presented Ocean Habitat, dramatizing the loss of sea turtle nesting habitat; the kids created sand paintings and played with a real sail, pretending to be on the ocean.

Valencia Library – Ivonne Ramirez

Valencia Library's beautiful entrance displays this month were strongly rooted in cultural and artistic community interests and received several compliments and notes of appreciation.

Valencia Library honored its veterans with a featured display starting November 7th.

On November 1st and 2nd the featured display was the growing community ofrenda for Dia de Muertos, which was first set up mid-October, and inspired by the Mexican-American cultural holiday as well as author Xelena Gonzales' beautiful new picture book *Remembering*.

On Friday November 3rd the display changed over to a theme to honor Native American Heritage month. Library visitors and staff collaborated in creating pumpkin decorations to frame the display table, and the books, DVDs and library materials on display were carefully curated to feature Native authors and culturally relevant materials.



In response to user demand from library users for more access to in-depth and one-on-one assistance on the computers, Valencia's Library Program Instructor Dibely has updated the format and schedule for computer help and job help sessions at Valencia Library. With the support of Library Technical Assistants and other library staff, Valencia Library has been able to

double the number of people receiving in-depth one-on-one assistance, from an average of 20 people per month at the beginning of the year, to an estimated average of 40 people per month in the past two months.

Activities funded by Friends Groups

Friends of the Pima County Public Library

Murphy-Wilmot Library- Recycled Material Bird Feeder
Frank De La Cruz-El Pueblo Library – Portable Planetarium by Lauren Ard; Chair Yoga by Vivianne Uyeda (twice); and Musical Story Time by Arizona-Sonoran Desert Museum.
Himmel Park Library – Chess Fundamentals
Richard Elías-Mission Library – Dino-rigami, Cosmic Space Painting, Gertie and the T.O. Boys, Grantwriting Workshop, Seed ball making
Southwest Library – Dino-rigami by Nathalie Mornu; Ocean Habitat by Meg Balaconis.
Quincie Douglas Library – Yusuko Banno (Paper Lanterns), Bali Beads Jewelry (Martha Underwood); Children's Museum Wee Story Time
Sam Lena–South Tucson Library – Paper Flowers and Papercraft, Draw Your Favorite Sonoran Desert Bird
Salazar-Ajo Library – Art Exploration with the Drawing Studio, Whatever Wednesdays – Family Movie, Ice Cube Painting, Amazing Murals with the Children's Museum of Tucson, Button Making
Valencia Library -- Yoga with Vivianne Uyeda, Frank Powers "How to Draw Cartoons and Comic Books with your BFF", NASA Astronauts with Meg Balaconis, Wellness Council AZ "Eating Healthy on a Budget", Create Club Special Event: StarWars Party
W. Anne Gibson Esmond Station Library – Gertie and the T.O. Boyz
Wheeler Taft Abbett, Sr. Library –

Friends of the Arivaca Library-

Friends of the Kirk-Bear Canyon Library-

Friends of the Green Valley Library (Green Valley & Sahuarita)-Music @ Your Library, Family Storytime

Friends of the Oro Valley Public Library- Musical Storytime with Arizona Sonoran Desert Museum

Friends of the W. Anne Gibson-Esmond Station Library-