

## **KEY MONTHLY LIBRARY ACTIVITIES - 2012**

**Month: APRIL & MAY**

### **REACHING OUT TO...**

#### **FAMILIES AND CAREGIVERS**

1. Children's Services has partnered with Dufferin Peel Catholic District School Board (DPCDSB) to provide outreach sessions at all 8 locations of DPCDSB literacy camps in July 2012. Children's Services will promote library services and the Summer Reading Club to children aged 5-12 attending literacy camps.
2. Children's Services launched Book & Play kits, a new in-house early literacy activity for children and their families. Families can access 20 kits containing early literacy favourites and linked games to make reading fun.
3. Children's Services offered special story times for April. For Easter, the children enjoyed a Bunnies & Eggs story time and craft while for Earth Day, they took part in recycling games and plant a flower.
4. Sciences and Business staff conducted an Explore E-Resources: Reading & Literature program for homeschooling parents focussing on the use of library print and e-resources. 17 attendees enjoyed learning about databases while exploring the Literature Resource Centre, Litfinder, and NoveList. All attendees had access to a Mississauga Library Card.

#### **YOUTH**

1. Children's Services hosted 3 students from various levels of study to special volunteer placements within the library. The students were involved in programming as well as special projects within the department.
2. The Kathleen A. Hicks' Historical Writing Award started accepting manuscripts on May 1st. Young writers are encouraged to research Mississauga's history and write a fictional piece which includes some of that historical detail
3. The Central Library's Teen Advisory Group has recently added 11 new members. They are involved in a number of initiatives including providing input into the summer programs for teens.

#### **OLDER ADULTS**

1. Central Sciences and Business staff conducted 6 computer workshops focussing on Mouse Skills, Internet Skills (Basic and Intermediate) and Email. 22 people attended the popular Saturday morning sessions.
2. The Canadiana Reading Room staff with its heritage partners celebrated Mazo de la Roche's 85<sup>th</sup> anniversary of her winning the Atlantic Prize in 1927) for her Jalna novel inspired by Benares in Clarkson. This was the most prestigious and valuable North American literary prize of its day. Central Library hosted two Mazo lectures, displays, and staff attended a dinner and annual meeting of the Mazo de la Roche Society.

## **NEW CANADIANS**

1. Two tours were offered to newcomers who came to visit the Central Library from the Malton LINC program.
2. Sciences and Business staff coordinated 13 Career Tours for the following community agencies: Fleming Adult Learning Centre, Newcomer Centre of Peel, ACCESS Employment, Peel Multicultural Council, St. Gabriel Adult Learning Centre. 171 attendees left with the ability to navigate the Library's Career Centre and various job searching databases. 78 attendees returned over 3 Career Research Days to expand their knowledge of resume writing and interview skills.
3. Sciences and Business staff conducted "The Canadian Citizenship Test: Get Ready!" program, highlighting information on practice tests, application procedures, documents to bring on test day and the Oath of Citizenship. Citizenship Judge Mina Yung-Fang also attended the program and answered questions from 15 eager participants.

## **COMPLETING OUR NEIGHBOURHOODS**

1. The Arts and History Department, with the support of the Readers' Den Department and Friends of the Library, coordinated the Spring Literary Festival, hosted a local authors' networking night and a book selling event at Central Library in which 21 local authors participated.
2. In partnership with the Royal Canadian Institute for the Advancement of Science (RCI), Sciences and Business hosted Dr. Douglas Goff from the University of Guelph who spoke about "Finding Science in Ice Cream" to an audience of 44 attendees. They learned about how this delicious treat is also a very complicated lesson in several scientific principles.  
  
RCI president, Bruce Gitelman, also presented the Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Medal to Janet McKinlay in "recognition of her contributions to Canada" on behalf of the Governor General.
3. Readers' Den co-ordinated the Library's attendance at the Connections: Accessibility Fair held at the Living Arts Centre. Staff were on hand to promote the library, highlighting services which may aid those with disabilities.
4. Kathleen Hicks delivered a program on Writing and Publishing. With 30 attendees, the program proved popular with other local writers interested in being published.

## **BUSINESSES**

1. The Central Sciences and Business Department staffed a booth at the annual City Manager's Leadership Conference. Staff demonstrated technology in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Library, including e-readers, tablets, and more. Staff also recruited 24 new Library card holders.

## **LIVING GREEN**

1. Children's Services participated in the 20 Minute Mississauga Makeover. Library customers cheered on as staff took 20 minutes to clean up the Children's Services Patio, an area highly visible to our customers.
2. Sciences and Business staff hosted "Your Green Yard: Discover the Possibilities!" Credit Valley Conservation's Program Coordinator, Melanie Kramer, spoke about planting gardens and lawns with vibrant native species.

## **OTHER (special initiatives)**

1. The Canadiana Reading Room accepted a substantial and important donation from landscape architect Karl Frank consisting of reports, papers, and pictures generated during the construction of Meadowvale West and South. The collection tracks the evolution of this community, from the building of apartment blocks radical in their time, to professional buildings, homes, schools, lakes and finally the opening of the Meadowvale Town Centre in 1978 as the "largest, most comprehensively planned urban community ever undertaken in North America". This donation augments the excellent slide collection and property information already available in the Canadiana Reading Room.