

KEY MONTHLY LIBRARY ACTIVITIES - 2012

Month: July

REACHING OUT TO...

YOUTH

1. The Readers' Den Department's summer programs for youth are underway. Teens enjoyed various programs including do-it-yourself activities (screen printing, magnetic poetry, knitting), gaming days (video and board games), drop-in chess matches and two skateboarding film events. In addition, regular Teen Advisory Group and Youth Writers Guild meetings were held, and the Teen Bingo Summer Reading Challenge has begun. A total of 171 youth participated in the department's youth programming over the past month.

OLDER ADULTS

1. The Readers' Den Department has recently added four new older adult customers to its very popular and growing homebound library service and accepted the application of a new volunteer delivery driver.
2. The Arts and History Department launched the intergenerational programme called Computer Buddies which pairs a teen and an older adult to learn basic computer skills. The response has been overwhelming and includes this older "buddy" feedback:

My young computer buddy is an excellent tutor. Knowledgeable and extremely patient. He goes through the lessons in detail and reviews before we start the new session. Learning is all about reinforcements. He knows the basics of being a good teacher. My knowledge of computer is all self-taught, but taking this lesson I believe will help me know some short cuts and will save me a great deal of time.

3. This month the Arts and History Department said farewell to a local author and library travel program enthusiast Nisar Beg who passed quite suddenly.

My sister and I would like to thank you and the Mississauga Library for being such a wonderful support to our father. He felt so much joy when he presented about his travels at the library and when he was invited to sell his books at the Spring Author's Festival.

NEW CANADIANS

1. Sciences and Business staff coordinated 9 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. One hundred and seven attendees left with the ability to navigate the Library's Career Centre and various job searching databases. Fifteen attendees returned for a Career Research Day to expand their knowledge of resume writing and interview skills.
2. In partnership with the Newcomer Information Centre of The Centre for Education and Training, Sciences and Business staff hosted "Employment Search" a comprehensive session that guides newcomers in identifying their employment search priorities and finds the resources/services that will quickly address any deficiencies.

3. The Arts and History Department in cooperation with the Sciences and Business Department hosted a celebration of South Asian culture called Mushaira on Sunday, July 15 in the Noel Ryan Auditorium. The four-hour event featured twenty-three poets, many recognized internationally, and was enjoyed by a full house of 244 attendees.

COMPLETING OUR NEIGHBOURHOODS

1. The Readers' Den Department participated in Central Library's very successful Canada Day event by decorating the ground floor with maple leaves and flags and setting up carefully chosen Canadian-themed displays of library materials.
2. The Readers' Den Department hosted the First Responder course on July 12 in partnership with St. John's Ambulance. Nine youth participants received an overview of lifesaving skills, including CPR, and learned strategies for dealing with emergency situations.

BUSINESSES

1. Sciences and Business staff hosted Derek Foster, author of The Worried Boomer and The Idiot Millionaire. He discussed investing tips and strategies for 15 attendees. Subsequently, he was featured in the Mississauga News.

OTHER (special initiatives)

1. The Library's Social Media presence continues to grow. Facebook added 20 fans in July, for a total of 1206; Twitter gained 56 followers, for a total of 1326.
2. The Mississauga Non-Fiction Book Club, hosted by Sciences and Business staff, has launched an online companion to its group discussion. Book ideas, book reviews, discussion questions, and other information may be found at: <http://nonfictionbookclubmississauga.blogspot.ca/>