

KEY MONTHLY LIBRARY ACTIVITIES - 2012

Month: May

REACHING OUT TO...

FAMILIES AND CAREGIVERS

1. Sciences and Business staff conducted an Explore E-Resources: Junior Research program for homeschooling parents focussing on how to use library print and e-resources. Attendees enjoyed learning about databases while exploring Canada in Context, Discovering Collection, eLibrary, Info Trac Junior Edition, Kids Infobits, PebbleGo, TumbleBooks, and World Book Kids. All attendees had access to a Mississauga Library Card.
2. The Grade 4 Read to Succeed winning classes were announced at all 18 locations. These are teams that had the highest participation of students returning three times to the library after their initial orientation and card registration. These classes will be recognized with a half day book celebration at the Central library featuring two author visits and the presentation of trophies.
3. As a continuing improvement to placemaking and positioning the Children's Department as a destination for discovery and learning through play for preschool children and their families, a play kitchen has been added to the department's Tot Spot. This new imaginative play center is rivalling the popularity of the train table with both little girls and boys!
4. Author Illustrator Ian Wallace introduced his book The Name of the Tree to two classes from Eden Rose Public School.

YOUTH

1. Staff hosted the 4th annual Poetry Slam. Fifteen poets performed to an audience of 77. Thirteen Teen Advisory Group members volunteered for the event as judges, list keepers, timekeepers, ushers and photographers. A volunteer with the Nexus Youth Centre served as MC for the night.
2. The Kathleen A. Hicks Historical Writing Award contest was launched on May 1st and submissions will be accepted to the end of August.

OLDER ADULTS

1. Central Sciences and Business staff conducted 7 computer workshops focusing on Mouse Skills, Internet Skills (Basic and Intermediate) and Email. Twenty Six people attended the popular Saturday morning sessions and 11 people were on the waitlist.

NEW CANADIANS

1. Sciences and Business staff coordinated 12 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. 132 attendees left with the ability to navigate the Library's Career Centre and various job searching databases. 32 attendees returned over 2 Career Research Days in order to expand their knowledge of resume writing and interview skills.
2. The Central Arts and History Department completed its third session of the English Conversation Circle and the evaluation comments indicate that the library truly changes lives:
 - This program makes me feel that I also have friends in this unknown country where I just came few days before.
 - It has helped me to improve my English and to lose the fear to speak.
 - It has built my confidence.
 - I thought I was the only person in all of Canada that doesn't speak English

COMPLETING OUR NEIGHBOURHOODS

1. Sciences and Business staff hosted naturopathic doctor, Marilla Yu, of EcoHealth and Wellness in Mississauga. She explained the process of body detoxification and the positive benefits of a healthy body. Fifteen attendees learned how to "spring clean" their body by using natural therapies.
2. Eighteen Books to Go packages were prepared in May for 167 customers. To further support this very popular program, participants will be able to pick from a list of over 100 books.
Updated
information has been added to the Library's website and participants continue to receive copies for members in their book clubs and supplementary information to facilitate discussion.

BUSINESSES

1. Sciences and Business demonstrated small business resources (e.g., books on how to write a business plan, periodicals and books about going into a specific business) and gave a brief demonstration of the popular (yet daunting) Scott's Directory database to a group of 15 enthusiastic Sheridan College business students.
2. The Readers-to-Writers Network was promoted at the Staff Conference to allow other branch locations to learn more about the program and find ways to promote it to their customers.

LIVING GREEN

1. Sciences and Business staff continue to create and maintain URL submissions for the Library catalogue. This month, the entire municipal government documents collection went "online", eliminating the need to print and store cumbersome paper documents.

OTHER INITIATIVES

1. The Canadiana Reading Room received a request for genealogical information from an American descendent of Timothy Street, the founder of Streetsville. In the course of providing research help, staff discovered a seemingly lost donation by Eloise Street Harries (born 1893) to the Streetsville Library which included three binders of family history and photographs, two books of poetry by Eloise Street, correspondence between Eloise Street and Streetsville librarian Elizabeth Colley (1973), and a 640 page book called *The Street Genealogy* (1895) by Mary A. Street in which the earliest known ancestor is a Richard Street, a clothier who died in 1591. The American relative is now planning to visit to Central Library.