

KEY MONTHLY LIBRARY ACTIVITIES - 2011

Month: May 2011

Location: Area 1 (Central Library)

REACHING OUT TO...

FAMILIES AND CAREGIVERS

1. Staff conducted 6 outreach programs during Welcome to Kindergarten Registration Nights at Corsair, St. Bernadette's, St. Alfred's, St's. Martha and Mary, Corpus Christi and Munden Park Schools. Along with displays, activities included interactive storytelling, short presentations on the value of the library and short interviews with parents.
2. The Grade 4 Read to Succeed program has come to an end with much higher participation this year than in previous years. The class with the highest return of students to the library was Mr. Norm Ibuki's class from Corsair Public School, with a 95 % of all students returning to the library three times after their initial orientation. The winning classes from each location will be honoured at a special author visit celebration on June 3 in the Noel Ryan Auditorium.
3. Staff from the Children's Dept. hosted a 2 hour training session for all system staff in anticipation of the annual TD Summer Reading Club. This year's theme, SPLASH, meant that ideas shared for programs included Pirates, Jaws, Underwater Sea Creatures, Beach Days and other water fun. Each location was given a sourcebook of program suggestions and a CD with songs guaranteed to "Make a Splash"!
4. The 8 week spring session of preschool programming came to an end in May. In total, the Children's Department connected with 1,432 participants in 84 programs. The objectives of these programs are to introduce the best books for all ages and stages of children birth to 6 years of age, to model book sharing behaviours for parents and caregivers to emulate at home and to share all other activities that encourage early literacy and the development of skills that every child needs to ready him or her for reading on their own.
5. A customer provided us positive feedback about library services via email. She wrote: "I am a frequent visitor to the library along with my children and I want to commend you on the wonderful service that it provides for us. Kudos to all you."

YOUTH

1. Yousra Hassan-Gendil, a Central Library TAG member since May 2008, earned a \$1000 scholarship award from the Congress of Black Women of Canada, Mississauga and Area Chapter, in part due to her community service involvement through the library. Yousra contributed a total of 93 hours of library volunteer time, regularly attending TAG meetings

and often serving as recorder, taking and producing the minutes for the group. She also assisted with TAG initiatives, such as holiday and Halloween events, and helped to plan, organize and judge our Teen Music Video Contest and several Teen Poetry Slams. Youstra has also volunteered her time for the library system's Mississauga Literary Festival and for My Mississauga's Sport Street through TAG.

2. Canadiana Reading Room staff hosted 3 class visits of middle school students from Northstar Montessori School working on several local history projects including Bradley House, Benares, the Leslie Family, Hazel McCallion, Cooksville, Mazo de la Roche, and Cherry Hill House.

OLDER ADULTS

1. Central Sciences and Business staff held two Internet classes (Level I and Level II) for Older Adults ten people were able to attend.

NEW CANADIANS

1. Central Sciences and Business staff coordinated 12 Career Tours for the following community agencies: Fleming Adult Learning Centre, St. Gabriel Adult Learning Centre, Newcomer Centre of Peel, and Peel Multicultural Council. 163 attendees left with the ability to navigate the Library's Career Centre and various job searching databases. Staff invited participants back for a Career Research Day in order to expand their knowledge of resume writing and interview skills.
2. In partnership with the Newcomer Information Centre, Central Sciences and Business conducted 4 programs (Working in Canada, Youth Employment, Education and Training for Newcomers and Résumé Help), giving newcomers an opportunity to explore the practical side of job-seeking.
3. Newcomer Information Centre, a department of The Centre for Education set up a display for newcomers in the atrium of Central Library. The Centre is a provincially-funded organization that provides settlement and language services to newcomers, enabling integration and supporting their social services and educational needs.
4. The Arts and History Department has begun hosting weekly English Conversation Circles in partnership with Newcomer Centre of Peel in the Canadiana Reading Room. Newcomers not only practice their English skills, but also are surrounded by opportunities to learn more about the community.

COMPLETING OUR NEIGHBOURHOODS

1. Special displays celebrating South Asian Heritage month has attracted a great deal of attention and has stimulated circulation of books about South Asian countries, crafts, foods and stories. These displays

are also promoting the upcoming Independent Indian Film Academy Awards, which will be taking place June 24th – 26th.

2. A customer provided positive feedback about the DVD collection in the Mississauga Library System. She was pleased with the selection of award-winning and documentary titles. “Someone is making some very good choices up there and I want you to know that it is appreciated. Please keep up the good work. It is a great commentary on the Mississauga Library System.”
3. Local history staff in the Canadiana Reading Room participated in the official opening of the Leslie Log House. To support the opening of this new Mississauga museum, staff supervised the preparation of the Leslie family history, a co-op project with an intern from the University of Toronto at Mississauga.

CULTIVATING CREATIVE & INNOVATIVE BUSINESSES

1. Central Sciences and Business staff promoted the newly installed 2011 Mississauga Business Directory to all staff and customers. This invaluable resource is now available on every Library Catalogue terminal in order to allow customers access to the most up-to-date local business information available.

PROMOTING TRANSIT

- 1.

LIVING GREEN

1. Central Sciences and Business staff, in conjunction with the Halton Peel Humanist Community, presented Mike Nickerson, author of *Life, Money & Illusion: Living on Earth as if we Want to Stay*. Nickerson talked and facilitated a discussion about sustainability and choosing our future. The discussion centred on the goal of society and how decisions need to be based first on whether or not they contribute to long-term well-being.

OTHER (special initiatives)

1. The Library was promoted on Rogers Cable 10 on May 19. Information about Celebration Square, Canada Day, Summer Hours, Summer Programs and Overdrive were highlighted.
2. Central Sciences and Business staff, in partnership with the Canadian Diabetes Association, coordinated a lecture entitled “Diabetes: What You Need To Know”. A small but very interested group participated.
3. Central Library is currently hosting the photography of Gauri Gill, internationally known Indian photographer, on the third and fourth floors. The exhibition is a partnership with Culture Division, the South Asian Visual Arts Centre, and the Arts and History Department. The show

is complemented by a display of local photographs on the first floor by Mississaugans about living in Mississauga.