

**Library Board Report
Youth Services Department
September 2015
Prepared by Abby Stapp, Interim Youth Services Coordinator**

2015 has been full of changes for the McKinney Public Library System Youth Services. The Youth Services department added a full-time Youth Services Librarian, Laura Compton, who is willing and anxious to take on teen programming for the System. Michaela Watson resigned as Youth Services Coordinator in September and I was appointed Interim Youth Services Coordinator. Tamara Bigglio moved from our department to pursue other career goals in the Library. This currently leaves three position vacancies, Youth Services Coordinator, full-time Library Technician, and my former post as part-time Library Technician.

Summer Reading Programming 2015 ended in August. Regular programming included baby, toddler and preschool storytimes, Music & Movement, Little Explorers, Family programs, Mother/Daughter Book Club, Family Storytime, Lego Storytime and Maker's Lab. In-house and paid programs help fill out the Library's special family programming. Private funding paid for our Zooniversity program again this year. Friends of the Library provided Magician Todd McKinney, the Blackland Prairie Raptor Center, Kidscience, Bat World Sanctuary and Circus Chicken Dog programs. Special preschool programs were created and performed in-house by Youth Services staff. We are excited to report that 4,840 summer reading logs were given out over the summer to our young readers and 1,910 were returned for a 37% return rate.

The teens have arrived! Our Library hosted 5 teen programs this summer at both the John and Judy Gay and Hall Libraries. There were Wii Glow Parties, Self Defense, Giant Games and more. Regular teen participation has grown and they, in fact, helped Ms. Compton design their own teen fall programming schedule. These programs will be held on Tuesdays each week at Hall and Thursdays after school at JJGL and themes will rotate between crafts, BOYB (Bring Your Own Book), Anime Club, writing and gaming.

Fall programming for younger children continues with baby, toddler, preschool, and family storytimes, and Music & Movement. Preschool Storytime attendees will take a "Road Trip Across America", focusing on a different state and sights each week, with map crafts involving that states and their landmarks. We will also continue our Little Explorers program for preschool aged children. "Take a Journey through the Habitats" by learning about biomes including the desert, tropical rain forest, and the arctic.

School Age STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math) programming is biweekly, Monday at Hall and Tuesday at JJGL. Children will explore cultures across the globe through

“Celebrations Around the World.” These programs will begin with a discussion of the destination country and highlight its peoples through folktales, food, music and art.

The popular Family Makers’ Lab continues at the Hall library, Thursdays from 3-5 PM, where children and parents can create a variety of themed crafts or can use their imaginations and materials to create something wholly unique to take home. We will host a similar lab called “Crafternoon” on Saturdays at Hall to replace the lightly attended Saturday Family Storytime.

Mother/Daughter Book Club will continue at JJGL one Monday evening each month, 6:30-7:30pm.

Finally, look for our STEM (Hands-on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) programming for grade school-aged kids for October/November and many exciting holiday events for December.