

Librarian's Report
October 2021

Programming:

Kids:

- 90 Hillcrest Elementary School 3rd Graders visited the Library on Thursday, October 7.
- We have constructed a new puppet theater and are excited to use it for the first time on Tuesday, October 19, at 7:00 pm.

Teens:

- Anime Club is kind of off the charts! So far, our biggest group has been 33 teens!
- Teen Gaming is a new program and off to a great start – have had 10-12 teens attend each time
- Teens were excited about Board Games being offered as a new program – 6 attended the first night & several have been asking when it would be held again
- Katie was invited to present to ALL 7th & 8th grade Reading classes this year to talk about the programs we will be hosting throughout the school year and do some book talks. That included about 550 teens!! (she also got some nice, signed thank you posters from the 7th grade classes & have had several teens come to programs and say they enjoyed hearing about the info)
- Monthly Teen To-Go Crafts started again in September, and we had 15 participants!
- Teen STEAM Tuesday is off to a great start – we had 13 teens come to make Solar S'mores Ovens in September and are looking forward to exploding pumpkins this month!
- For our October Book Clubs (Sweet Reads & Snackchat), we are excited to have our first ever virtual author visit with Marcykate Connolly, author of Twin Daggers!
- We also have local artist, Chuck Bennis, scheduled to do an interactive presentation with the teens on 10/25 & talk about how to turn art into a career!
- Teen Screen & Scribble is going over better now than it did in the summer.... We had 10 at the September movie and teens have been making suggestions for future movies!
- The monthly prize drawing is a hit – prizes are small, but they like earning an entry for each program they attend!

Adults:

- Our first post-COVID Escape Room was a success! 113 people participated!
- The Winter Reading Program begins on Sunday, October 17.
- BBC, But You Do Not Observe: Sociopathy and Sherlock Holmes, talk on October 21 at 6:30 pm. This talk explores the literary world of Sherlock Holmes and clinical world dealing with antisocial personality disorder.
- We will be doing a Haunted Gingerbread Contest on Tuesday, October 26, at 6:30 pm.

Other:

- We have received a \$2,500 Literacy Grant from Dollar General. We will be using this money to purchase Wonderbooks and Launchpads. As these are high dollar items, the grant money will be a great boost to these well used collections.
- We had a safety assessment done on the Library by BPD Office Keith Theroux. We are currently working through the assessment to see what security upgrades we can quickly and cost-effectively implement and what needs to be done that would be more labor intensive and expensive. We are also in the process of getting quotes for higher cost things, such as security cameras and card key locks.
- We have hired Kristina Trombley and Carmen Neimeyer to fill our two open part-time library assistant positions. Kristina started on Monday, October 4. Carmen will start on Monday, October 18. Carmen has worked as a part-time library assistant in the past and we are excited to have her back!
- Nita Gill, Adult Services Librarian, and Nancy Swenson, Technology Services Librarian have been re-certified through the South Dakota State Library's continuing education certification program.
- Ashia has finished her term as Past President with the South Dakota Library Association.
- Nita Gill has finished her term as Mountain Plains Library Association (MPLA) Representative with South Dakota Library Association.
- Nita and Nancy continue to serve on the SDLA Intellectual Freedom Committee. And Nancy has been asked to join the MPLA Communications Committee.
- Nancy gave an Intellectual Freedom talk to USD Librarians on September 28.