



Library Director's Report

April 2024

LIBRARY DIRECTOR

- Youth in Government (YIG) Day took place on Tuesday, April 9. We were very fortunate to have Malcolm Goodman as the YIG Library Director. Malcolm is a student at Skyline Middle College and is currently selecting a college from among several acceptances. Malcolm's interest in filming led to the topic of this year's staff report - a grant acceptance to purchase special podcasting equipment and present trainings and drop-ins for teens. The Mock City Council meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 17, at 6:30pm in the City Council Chambers. At this time, Malcolm will present the staff report to the YIG City Council members.
- The final work on setting up A/V in the Community Room is underway. Once completed, we will be able to broadcast programs and allow for seamless "Zoom" meetings utilizing several cameras installed in the room, and use of table and wireless microphones.
- LPR has received some great press coverage recently. Please review the article and the video links below:
 - <https://www.almanacnews.com/roundup/2024/04/04/checking-out-the-best-recommendations-at-peninsula-libraries/>
 - [South San Francisco Library: Peninsula Comic Arts Fest 2024](#)

ADULT SERVICES

Digital Literacy & Online Resources

Tech Tuesday classes are averaging nine students per class – great turnout! The Librarians taught some amazing topics including the basics of AI, Photoshop cartoon effects, travel apps, and how to back-up your files.

Stacy Lein, as part of the PLS Info Services Committee, is assisting with evaluating vendors for the new PLS wide app. Stacy is also participating on the City's website team to migrate content over to the City's new website. We hope to be up and running this Summer!

March 2024 – Key Stats & Updates

- Programs: 18 total; 199 attendees or participants
- Streaming Video Views: 585 plays
- eBooks, eAudiobooks, & eMagazines check-outs: 8,236 total
 - eBook and eAudio checkouts: 6,469 – highest monthly usage so far
 - eMagazines checkouts: 1,767 – highest monthly usage so far

Premiere Programming & Community Partnerships

Health & Wellness - In March, we partnered with a local organization to provide free Mental Health First Aid training to the community. San Mateo County Behavioral Health and Recovery Services Office of Diversity and Equity contracted the organization, Kingdom Love, to schedule, coordinate, and deliver these trainings. Our contact with the group called our community room "gorgeous" and were able to provide MHFA training to around 15 people. They will be back in April for another session. Also, we coordinated a series of Chair Yoga classes with a SSF resident and registered yoga instructor. We have dates scheduled through May.

Women's History Month – Staff put together book lists, displays, and programming to celebrate Women's History Month. The Monthly Book Group discussed Kate Zernike's, *The Exceptions: Nancy Hopkins, MIT and the Fight for Women in Science*. There was a lively conversation and for many, new information about the discrimination that women face in the science and how it has changed over the years. Philecia Harris, who facilitates book club, is also coordinating all events for our Genentech funded STEM speaker series. On April 11th, we welcome Kate Zernike and special guest, Christine Pelosi, for an author discussion in the City Council Chambers and on Saturday, April 20th there will be a Fixit Clinic in Makerspace. STEM programming will continue into May with a STEM Career Night and Science Fiction author, PJ Caldas will discuss his book, *Girl from Wudang*.



Adult Crafternoon continues to draw a committed crowd once a month to experiment with a new type of art. In March, we tried spoon painting, at the suggestion of a patron. It was a fun experiment and we saw some beautiful work. Adult Crafternoon is funded by the SSF Friends of the Library. Barbara Pereira continues offering her weekly mending series in the Discovery Center. She assists patrons with mending projects and other sewing repairs.



CIRCULATION

- Total circulation for **March 2024: 37,809**
- Total number of materials checked in: **17,379**
- New library accounts: **674**
- Number of items lent to another library: **5,225**
- Number of items borrowed from another library: **3,159**

GRAND AVENUE BRANCH LIBRARY

March 2024 – Key Stats & Updates

Programs: 21 total; 323 attendees or participants

Grand's programs in March focused upon providing opportunities for hands-on learning and exploration.

- For Women's History Month, the Library offered a children's program entitled "Kids' Art Workshop: Celebrate Women in Art." Sixteen attendees created art inspired by

three women-artists: collage artist Patricia Abad, painter Frida Kahlo, and landscape artist Georgia O'Keefe.



- Throughout the month, additional art projects focusing upon the art of these three artists were offered to anyone coming into the library.



- On March 28, Librarian Will Crabtree and Library assistants Victoria Leonard & Chelsea Qunitanilla hosted a robotics fair in which four different interactive robotics and microcontroller activities were offered. The activities focused upon logical thinking, the basics of coding, and applying these concepts in fun and engaging ways. Activities included a robotics race, creating and controlling a Lego MindStorm device, and creating various devices using Cubelets. Fifteen children attended the program.



Premiere Programming & Community Partnerships

- The library continued to host preschool class visits from Martin preschool, with three class visits totaling 41 attendees. Each class received a special storytime and tour. Spanish-speaking staff helped many of the parents apply for and receive library cards.



- The Library hosted a program for Arduino Days, a worldwide event celebrating making and learning using the Arduino open-source program. Twelve attendees of various skill and experience levels with the Arduino microcontroller system came together to share and learn from each other. Attendees discussed using artificial intelligence to code for the Arduino and this prompted much discussion and excitement about the platform. The Arduino group meets monthly on Saturdays at the Grand Avenue Library and is facilitated by Victoria Leonard, Library Assistant and a library volunteer.

LITERACY SERVICES

Gene Mullin Community Learning Center (GMCLC) – Adult Services

- One of the most impactful programs at the GMCLC is the English as a Second Language tutoring program. One of our students reevaluated his learning goals for the upcoming year, it was clear that tutoring had made a significant impact on his progress and life. He achieved a milestone of passing both the written and behind-

the-wheel driving test in English. The student expressed how beneficial it was to set and review his goals; he was grateful for the Center's continuous tracking and support. Witnessing his own growth filled him with deep encouragement to persist on his ESL journey without giving up.

- GMCLC has welcomed new volunteers who are dedicated to pursuing their own projects at the Center, and the impact is truly inspiring. Last month, one of our high school volunteers completed his passion project service hours in little over a month. The connection between the Center, community, and local high schools has strengthened in the wake of the pandemic and will continue to support future generations in their academic journeys. The Center continues to welcome volunteers, values their dedication and their support for community engagement.

Gene Mullin Community Learning Center (GMCLC) – Children Services

- The after-school elementary youth program at GMCLC continued the implementation of Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) and Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM) activities. These activities aimed to nurture students' well-being and cultivated their interest in science and math. Our featured activity this month: Coding. Students completed fun coding activities developing problem solving, creativity, math skills and more.

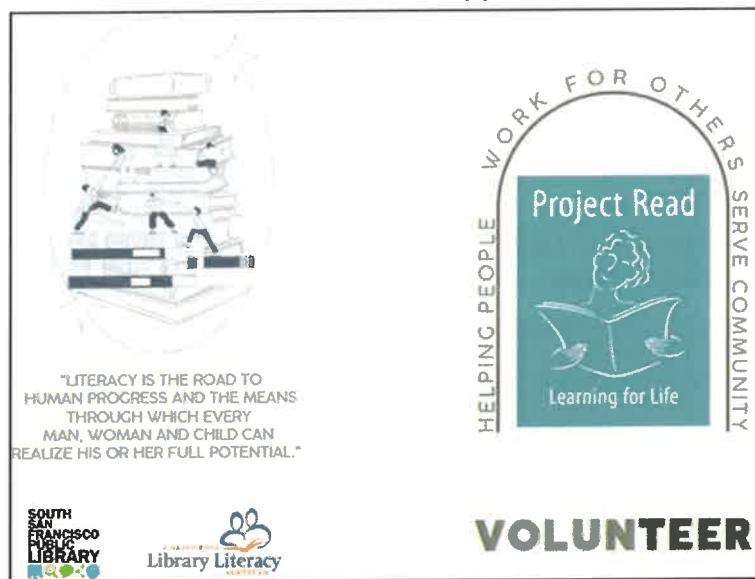


- Staff introduced dance into our recess activities, especially during inclement weather. GMCLC youth staff recognizes that participating in physical activity is vital for fostering good physical and mental health and promoting overall well-being among students. Our students thoroughly enjoyed learning new dances and sharing their favorites with staff.



Project Read – Adult Services

- Learners and tutors continue to sign up and are being paired up.
- Adult Learner Data
 - 15 of adult learners who continued from prior month.
 - 5 of adult learners who began instruction in the reporting period.
 - 21 adult learners who mostly or exclusively received instruction via:
 - One-to-one tutoring.
 - Small group classes (2-8)
 - Large classes (9+)
 - 12 literacy learners awaiting matching/rematching at the end of reporting period.
- Preparing for National Volunteer Week with Thank You/Appreciation cards for our volunteer tutors for April. In addition to the card, we have included personal thank you notes as well as a reminder to SSF Volunteer Appreciation Picnic



Project Read – Children and Family Services

- Learning Wheels engaged in outreach at the Library | Parks and Recreation Center on March 2nd, connecting new families to our range of programs. The program also participated in Daly City's Spring Fun Day on March 30th, serving over 350 attendees. The event, an Easter celebration for the Daly City community, featured various activities including Easter egg hunts, crafts, food, music, and vendors. In addition to outreach, the program distributed free books to all participants. Additionally, Learning Wheels continued its regular Wednesday visits to the San Bruno library and Tuesday visits to the South San Francisco Clinic. On March 6th, the bookmobile visited Colma for a literacy workshop, where students were excited to explore the bookmobile and engage in storytime.



- On March 7th, the Alzheimer's Association presented to inform the My First Years families about early warning signs and preventative measures for Alzheimer's. The family workshop series concluded with a celebratory event on March 15th. Family Literacy Services also welcomed new families into our Wednesday workshop program. Additionally, the program hosted a science workshop in Colma, where students learned about seed germination and had the hands-on experience of planting their own miniature gardens.



DISCOVERY CENTER

Fourteen premier programs were held in the Discovery Center: **Earthquakes and Engineering Hosted by Amgen**, **Mending Hour**, **Lego Club**, **Stardew Valley Video Game Party**, etc., with an estimated 340+ patrons attending. Daily pop-up programs and craft activities were held with an estimated 230+ additional participants visiting the Makerspace in the month of March.

Amgen scientists and Discovery Center staff hosted the second premier Amgen workshop in the Discovery Center Makerspace: **Earthquakes and Engineering**. Over 3 hours, children and their families came together and created their own building structures using a variety of craft supplies like popsicle sticks, straws and tape. The patrons' creations were tested for foundational integrity by using the earthquake simulator station. The families and children that attended had a great time learning about what it takes to create a structurally sound building.



Discovery Center volunteer and professional game designer, Christian Chang, ran two sessions of **Intermediate 3D Printing for Kids**. Approximately 28 patrons participated and built upon the skills taught in the **Beginners 3D Printing for Kids** program. In the **Intermediate** sessions, children were taught how to create their own bunny design using the open-source 3D printing software TinkerCAD. Patron interest in 3D printing is so high that Christian is developing a new series of 3D printing workshops in May for both kids and adults.



On Wednesday, March 20, Jessica Wong, Library Assistant, hosted the Library's first **Stardew Valley Video Game Party** program. The Discovery Center team had perler beads crafts and cube art in celebration of the video game's latest software update. Patrons also got the opportunity to get hands-on playtime of the game using the newest gaming computer that was donated to the Library by the SSF police department.



On March 18, in celebration of Women's History Month, the Discovery Center team led the **Building Bridges like Emily Roebling** program. Patrons learned about the history of the Brooklyn Bridge and the contributions that engineer, Emily Roebling, had in its development. Patrons created their own bridges using popsicle sticks and hotglue guns. Afterwards, their bridge creations were tested for strength by stacking books on top.



Fourteen class visits ranging from grades K-12 were held in the Discovery Center. An estimated 360 students were given tours of the spaces and got the opportunity to experience many of the pieces of equipment available such as the Glowforge laser cutter, 3D printers, Cubelets, Legos, Battle Bots, Giant Connect 4, etc.



The Discovery Center team fulfilled 6 Tech Drop-in appointments and assisted additional patrons with various device issues ranging laptop optimization to installing accessibility features for patrons with disabilities.

The Virtual Reality gaming computer station has been set up and made available in the Community Room for patron use. VR gives patrons a truly immersive experience that traditional gaming can't provide. The Discovery Center team plans to expand the catalog of games available for the benefits of education and social interaction.



On Wednesdays, Bobby Leiva, Youth Services Librarian, hosts STEM & Buds. High school mentors facilitate meetings with elementary students in the Discovery Center Community Room. Every week they cover different topics of STEM, utilizing a variety of craft supplies and running projects that require teamwork and collaboration.



Towards the end of March, the Discovery Center reached out to Christian Home Educators of San Francisco pertaining to their request to visit the Main Library and learn about 3D printing. We also hosted the Menlo Park Public Library staff for a tour of the Discovery Center to get ideas for their very own Makerspace.

YOUTH SERVICES

March 2024 – Key Stats & Updates

Programs: 18 total; 694 attendees or participants

Bouncing Babies Storytime





Super Mario Day is an annual celebration of the Super Mario Franchise. Children, teens, and families were invited to play the Nintendo Switch game Super Smash Ultimate in the Young Adult Room.



Premiere Programming & Community Partnerships

Youth Services staff hosted Councilmember Flor Nicolas on March 29, in the Council Chambers, for a special storytime celebrating Women's History Month. Despite the heavy rain, families still came out to celebrate with us!



Storytime celebrating Women's History Month with Councilmember Flor Nicolas

Youth Services librarian, Martha, hosted Filipina author Nina Daza Puyat (author of "The Forlorn Rice Cooker" and "The Legend of Fried Spring Rolls") at the Youth Library on March 19.



Storytime with Nina Daza Puyat



March Class Visits:

14 class visits; 350 students from Buri Buri Elementary School, Sunshine Gardens, Alta Loma Middle School, and El Camino High School.

Buri Buri Elementary School 5th grade class visit





Alta Loma Middle School Class 8th grade class visit



Buri Buri Elementary School 4th grade class visit



Valerie Sommer

Valerie Sommer
Library Director