



# Library Director's Report

**September 2024**

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## **LIBRARY DIRECTOR**

- Upcoming high interest calendar items:
  - Filipino American History Month Celebration: Saturday, October 5 at LPR with a celebration ceremony, movie screening, special story time and crafts, refreshments and music
  - Project Read Trivia Challenge: Friday evening, November 15 at the SSF Conference Center
  - City Council Reorganization Ceremony: Tuesday evening, December 10 in CC Chambers
- A 29-Day Early Vote Center in the LPR second floor Community Room opens on Monday, October 7, and runs through Election Day, Tuesday, November 5. An exterior ballot box will be available in the LPR parking lot. The Vote Center is open from 9 – 5 weekdays, as well as from 9 – 5 on the last two weekends before Election Day. Election Day hours are 7am – 8pm. The last day to register to vote is Monday, October 21; however, between October 22 and Election Day, Conditional Voter Registration and Provisional Voting shall be provided in the Vote Center.
- At the September 11 City Council meeting, Council member Nicolas read a Proclamation recognizing Constitution Week, September 17 – 23. During this week, the local chapter of the DAR, Daughters of the American Revolution, will host a table in the second-floor lobby of LPR, next to the Community Room, where they will distribute mini-Constitutions as well as additional giveaways. Constitution Week coincides nicely with the annual Banned Books Week, September 22 – 28, when we celebrate the Freedom to Read. DAR. is also currently celebrating the two years leading up to the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 2026.

• High Demand Holds/Reserves:

# Title	Author	Material Type	By class Holds
1 The god of the woods / Liz Moore.	Moore, Liz, 1963- author.	BOOKS	266
2 All Stars : a novel / Miranda July.	July, Miranda, 1974- author.	BOOKS	184
3 Sandbar : a novel / Catharine Newman.	Newman, Catharine, 1966- author.	BOOKS	171
4 The art of power : my story as America's first woman speaker of the House.	Pelosi, Nancy, 1946- author.	BOOKS	160
5 All the colors of the dark : a novel / Chris Whelan.	Whelan, Chris, author.	BOOKS	167
6 THE WEDDING PEOPLE : a novel / Alison Espack.	Espack, Alison, 1964- author.	BOOKS	168
7 Tell me everything : a novel / Elizabeth Strout.	Strout, Elizabeth, author.	BOOKS	157
8 The life tempo to do / Matt Haig.	Haig, Matt, 1975- author.	BOOKS	125
9 Cressida Lake : a novel / Rachel Keener.	Keener, Rachel, author.	BOOKS	118
10 THE GREY WOLF / Louise Penny.	Penny, Louise, author.	BOOKS	115
11 On call : a doctor's journey in public service / Anthony S. Faol, M.D.	Faol, Anthony S., 1948- author.	BOOKS	112
12 WE SOLVE MURDERS	O'Shea, Richard	BOOKS	111
13 The mystery of time / Kallene Bradley.	Bradley, Kallene.	BOOKS	100
14 Here on a moment : a novel / Liene Morbury.	Morbury, Liene, author.	BOOKS	104
15 A QUIET PLACE: DAY ONE [videorecording].		DVD	90
16 Long Island compomice : a novel / Tally Brodecker-Akner.	Brodecker-Akner, Tally, author.	BOOKS	90
17 THE WOLFING	Connolly, Michael	BOOKS	92
18 The boy and the heroin / original story, screen play and directed by Hayao Miyazaki		DVD	92
19 Inside out 2 / directed by Kelsey Jenkins.		DVD	89
20 The Friday afternoon club : a family memoir / Orit Duvne.	Duvne, Orit, author.	BOOKS	87
21 On call [text (large print)] : a doctor's journey in public service	Faol, Anthony S., 1948- author.	LARGE PRINT	81
22 Good energy : the surprising connection between mental illness and brilliant health	Meaney, Casey, author.	BOOKS	79
23 Super Mario RPG.		VIDEO GAMES	77
24 TWISTERS [videorecording].		DVD	77
25 Kirby and the rainbow land.		VIDEO GAMES	78
26 Civil war / A24 : director, writer, Alex Garland		DVD	73
27 The Legend of Zelda : breath of the wild.		VIDEO GAMES	71
28 What to do ok when you don't feel like cooking / Caroline Chambers.	Chambers, Caroline, author.	BOOKS	69
29 Eruption / Michael Crichton and James Patterson.	Crichton, Michael, 1942-2008, author.	LARGE PRINT	67
30 DEEP CABLES 4 [DVD]	Carroll, Steve	DVD	66

• Current eBook and eAudiobook Holds/Reserves and number of copies owned by PLS:

Funny Story	Emily Henry	eBook	Adult Fiction	23
The Women: A Novel	Kristin Hannah	eBook	Adult Fiction	20
Funny Story	Emily Henry, Julia Whelan	Audiobook	Adult Fiction	16
Iron Flame	Rebecca Yarros	eBook	Adult Fiction	13
The Anxious Generation: How the Great Rewiring of Childhood Is Causing an Epidemic of Mental Illness (unabridged)	Jonathan Haidt, Sean Pratt	Audiobook	Adult Nonfiction	12
The Women: A Novel (unabridged)	Kristin Hannah, Julia Whelan	Audiobook	Adult Fiction	12
It Ends With Us	Colleen Hoover	eBook	Adult Fiction	9
It Ends With Us	Colleen Hoover, Olivia Song	Audiobook	Adult Fiction	8
Lies and Weddings: A Novel (unabridged)	Kevin Kwan, Jing Lusi	Audiobook	Adult Fiction	8
The Midnight Feast: A Novel	Lucy Foley	eBook	Adult Fiction	8
The Midnight Library	Matt Haig, Carey Mulligan	Audiobook	Adult Fiction	8
A Court of Mist and Fury	Sarah J. Maas	eBook	Young Adult Fiction	7
A Court of Thorns and Roses Bundle: A 5 Book Bundle	Sarah J. Maas	eBook	Adult Fiction	7
Lies and Weddings: A Novel Not in Love	Kevin Kwan	eBook	Adult Fiction	7
The Paradise Problem	All Hazelwood	Audiobook	Adult Fiction	7
Part of Your World	Christina Lauren	eBook	Adult Fiction	7
The Psychology of Money: Timeless Lessons on Wealth, Greed, and Happiness (unabridged)	Abby Jimenez	eBook	Adult Fiction	7
You Like It Darker: Stories (unabridged)	Morgan House, Chris Hill	Audiobook	Adult Nonfiction	7
A Court of Silver Flames	Stephen King, Will Patton	Audiobook	Adult Fiction	7
A Court of Thorns and Roses	Sarah J. Maas	eBook	Adult Fiction	6
A Good Girl's Guide to Murder	Sarah J. Maas, Jennifer Ikeda	Audiobook	Young Adult Fiction	6
Iron Flame	Holly Jackson	eBook	Young Adult Fiction	6
Love and Other Words	Rebecca Yarros, Rebecca Soler	Audiobook	Adult Fiction	6
The Art of Power: My Story as America's First Woman Speaker of the House (unabridged)	Christina Lauren	eBook	Adult Fiction	6
Atomic Habits: An Easy & Proven Way to Build Good Habits & Break Bad Ones (unabridged)	Nancy Pelosi	Audiobook	Adult Nonfiction	5
Eruption	James Clear	Audiobook	Adult Nonfiction	5
If We Were Perfect	Michael Crichton, James Patterson	eBook	Adult Fiction	5
A Little Life: A Novel	Ana Huang	Audiobook	Adult Fiction	5
Losing Hope	Hanya Yanagihara	eBook	Adult Fiction	5
	Colleen Hoover	eBook	Adult Fiction	5

## **ADULT SERVICES**

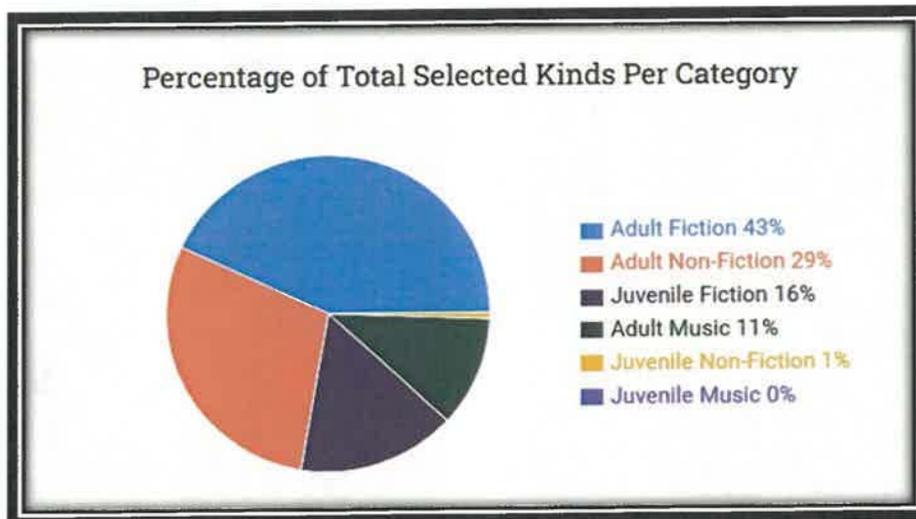
### *Digital Literacy & Online Resources*

Career Pathways - the digital collection known as CAREER Pathways will no longer be funded by the State Library. Most services end on September 30, 2024. This resource was a great way for the community to learn new skills that would help them in the job market. Throughout the state of California, CAREER Pathways reached 17,850 learners per month and the public accessed over 570,000 hours of content through videos, online classes, and more. The Library is unable to continue our subscription for these services, but will be exploring more options for workforce development in the future. Each service provides an announcement on their homepage to inform patrons of the change. More information can be found on our website:

<https://www.ssf.net/Departments/Library/Services/Career-Pathways>

Hoopla launched in August, and 115 patrons signed up for this new digital resource. 328 total items were circulated throughout the month. eBooks were the most popular format with 34% of circulation, followed by audiobooks, music, television and comics (tied), then movies.

This chart reflects the percentage of all formats circulated per category:



### *August – Key Stats & Updates*

- Programs: **30** total; **267** attendees or participants
- Streaming Movies & Music:
  - Hoopla: **82** Plays
  - Kanopy: **905** plays
- eBooks, eAudiobooks, & eMagazines check-outs:
  - eBook and eAudio checkouts (combined Libby & Hoopla): **6,126**
    - Hoopla: **241**
    - Libby: **5,885**
  - eMagazines checkouts: **926**

### *Premiere Programming & Community Partnerships*

We welcomed local author Pam Peirce to talk about planting for the secret season. She had a dedicated and very interested audience in attendance. She presented a slide show, and shared tools and supplies needed to maintain a winter garden. Pam also brought 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary editions of her book, *Golden Gate Gardening*, to sell.

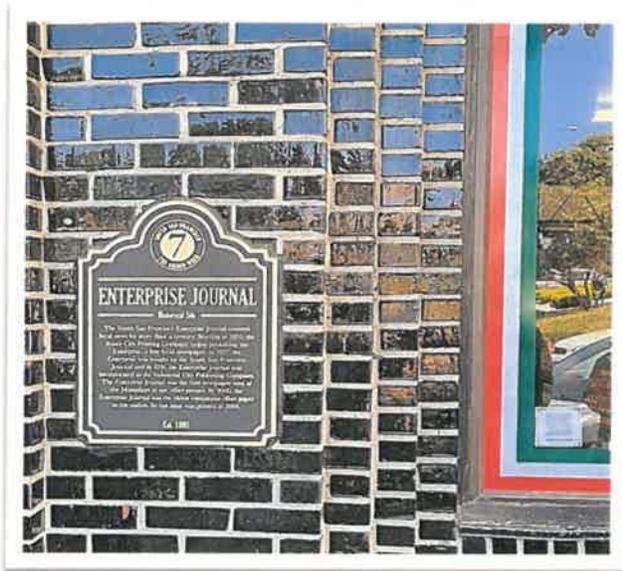
The Adult Summer Learning Challenge ended on August 31st. We had over 30 patrons participate in our Challenge this year which encouraged the community to engage with the Library in a variety of ways, e.g. read something recommended by a librarian, attend summer programs, learn a new skill at the library, and more.

In August, we curated a collection of brain games, puzzles, coloring books and supplies, and other activities targeted to older adults. These resources can be accessed during open hours in the Community Room.

### *History Room*

#### Walking Tour

We had a crowd of 20+ people join our walking tour, which included local history and architecture near and around the Grand Ave branch. This program typically draws a large and engaged crowd, and the most recent session saw that trend continue.



### **CIRCULATION**

- Total circulation for August 2024: **39,326**
- Total number of materials checked in: **18,988**
- New library accounts: **534**
- Number of items lent to another library: **5,381**
- Number of items borrowed from another library: **3,396**

## GRAND AVENUE BRANCH LIBRARY

### *August – Key Stats & Updates*

Programs: **24** total; **507** attendees or participants

- With the hiring of new hourly librarians, in August the Grand Avenue branch introduced a third weekly storytime: Pajama Storytime, held each Wednesday evening at 6 PM. Previously, the Pajama Storytimes were held a single time per month. In August, 108 people attended the four Pajama Storytime sessions. Evening storytimes attract a different group of attendees than our Family storytime; fewer grandparents and caretakers, and more parents, often with entire families attending. Crafts are offered every other session.



- The Monday Family Storytime sessions are proceeding strongly, with four sessions attracting 176 attendees. The sessions focus upon integrating music and movement with basic early literacy concepts such as colors, numbers, the alphabet, and opposites.



## *Premiere Programming & Community Partnerships*

### **LITERACY SERVICES**

#### *Gene Mullin Community Learning Center (GMCLC) – Adult Services*

- In August, the Gene Mullin Community Learning Center was on break, but several noteworthy events took place. On August 22nd and 24th, the Center held its Fall Registration, which attracted significant interest. On the first day of registration, both Beginner English classes reached full capacity with over 20 participants registered. On the second day, the Basic Computer class also filled with 20 registrants, and 12 individuals signed up for the Citizenship Workshop. The GMCLC is pleased to announce that classes for adults will resume on September 7th and will continue until December 7th. The Center will maintain the option for walk-in registrations, placing individuals on waiting lists as necessary, and moving students into class as space opens. Additionally, all adult programming will include access to Creative Center services, which provides engaging activities for children aged 4 to 12 while their parents attend adult classes at GMCLC. The Center is eager to return from its summer break and continue offering its anticipated in-demand services.

#### *Project Read – Adult Services*

- On the last Thursday of every month, Project Read hosts a book club that fosters a sense of community among English-speaking adults. It serves as a space to improve reading skills, connect with others, and explore new literary works. The August book club, which focused on *\*We Are Liars\** by E. Lockhart, exemplified this goal. Despite having only two participants—a learner and a tutor—along with two staff members—the group engaged in a lively and inclusive discussion. They explored Lockhart's novel, shared their life mottos, and enjoyed pastries and coffee. Project Read's September book club, scheduled for Thursday, September 28th, at 6:30 PM, promises to provide another opportunity to be part of this welcoming community. For this session, Project Read will read *\*Summer of the Mariposa\** by Guadalupe García McCall, a young adult retelling of Homer's *\*The Odyssey\**.

### **DISCOVERY CENTER**

- Sixteen premier programs and daily pop-up activities were conducted in the Discovery Center with an estimated **180** patrons attending. The Makerspace had an estimated **5,900** visitors.
- Several group visits were held in the Discovery Center Community Room for kids in TK to 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Over 40 kids and their chaperones got to experience all the fun attractions that the Discovery Center has to offer like robots, iPads, littleBits, board games, giant connect 4 and more.

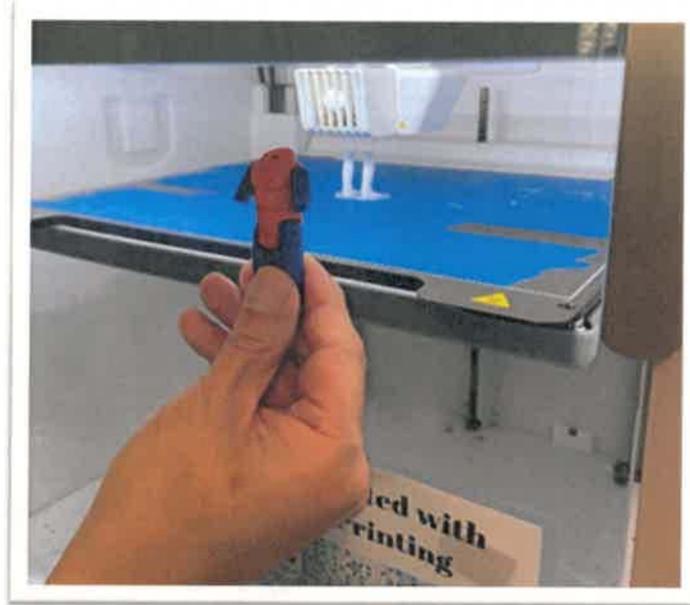
- Library volunteer and video game developer, Christian Chang, led four 3D modeling classes for kids, teenagers and adults. A total of 48 patrons participated and learned how to create their own nameplates and designs using TinkerCAD software in the Digital Media Lab. Christian plans to teach video game development classes using Unreal Engine 5 in the coming months.



- The laser cutter has seen a lot of continued usage during the summer. Patrons have created unique coasters out of wood, medallions and keychains. Over 20 items were made using the Glowforge laser cutter.



- 58 appointments and 30 walk-ins were made with the 3D printer. One of our library patrons has been using the Makerspace 3D printers to recreate broken parts of his action figurine collection. Below is one of their recent projects.



- The Discovery Garden plants have grown tremendously over the past few months. Many patrons and children watch and interact with the plants every day. Discovery Center staff have added additional plants and hope to expand it in the coming months.



- Young patrons are always encouraged to be creative and explore different mediums of art. Adar (standing in front of his pastel mural) is one of many child patrons that visit the library to explore their creative side.



- The Discovery Center team represented the Library during **National Night Out** at the Paradise Valley Recreation Center in South San Francisco. Over 50 people visited the Discovery Center table and got to witness a live demonstration of the 3D printer.



- Library volunteer and creative lead for AI Company, Soul Studios, led 3 sessions of **Learn Illustrator**. 26 patrons took a deep dive into digital image design.



## YOUTH SERVICES

*August – Key Stats & Updates*

Programs: **26** total; **1,891** attendees or participants

*Premiere Programming & Community Partnerships*

- *Summer Learning Challenge*

In August, the Youth Services Team ended the Summer Learning Challenge with a big event. The Summer Learning Celebration had over 250 attendees and families. The Youth Services team had stations for families that included: friendship bracelets, button making, face painting, bubbles, and lawn games.

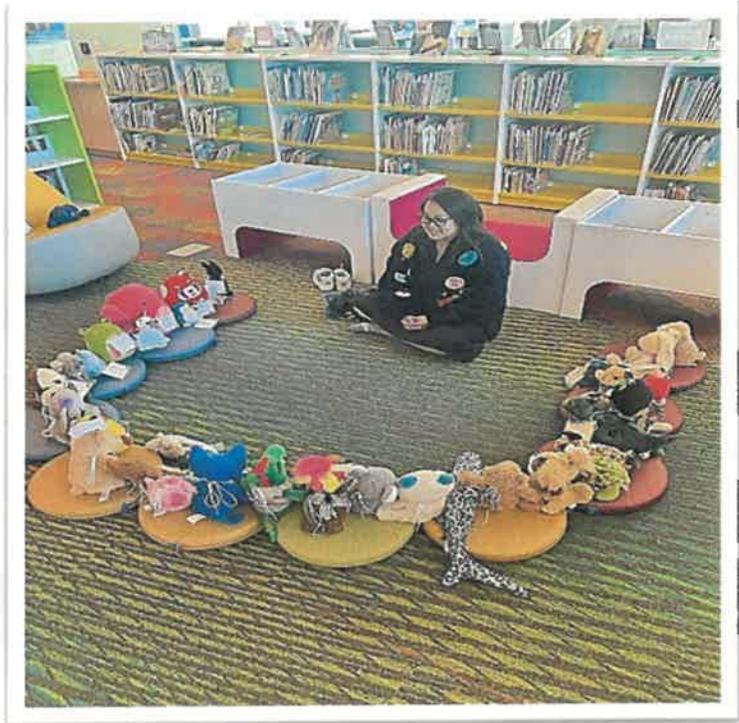
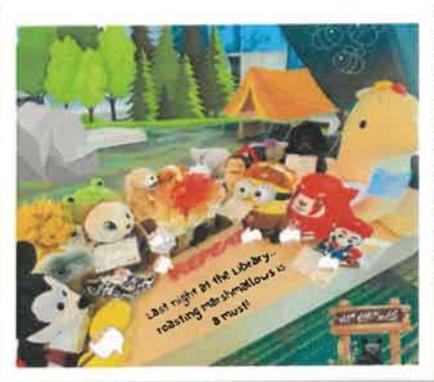


During the event, a special Firefighter Storytime happened with over 60 families and an appearance by the SSF Fire Engine Truck. Additionally, Councilmember Flor and Mayor Coleman made appearances.



- *Stuffie Sleepover Summer Camp*

Stuffie Sleepover Summer Camp had 53 campers! Families and kids were excited to drop off their stuffies to spend a few nights at the library. Families enjoyed seeing their pictures and interacting with them on social media. Each camper went home with personalized swag including SSFPL custom pennant flag, SSFPL camp badges, custom sticker, personalized mini certificates, and mini SSFPL library cards.



- *Summer Learning Program - Sophie's World*

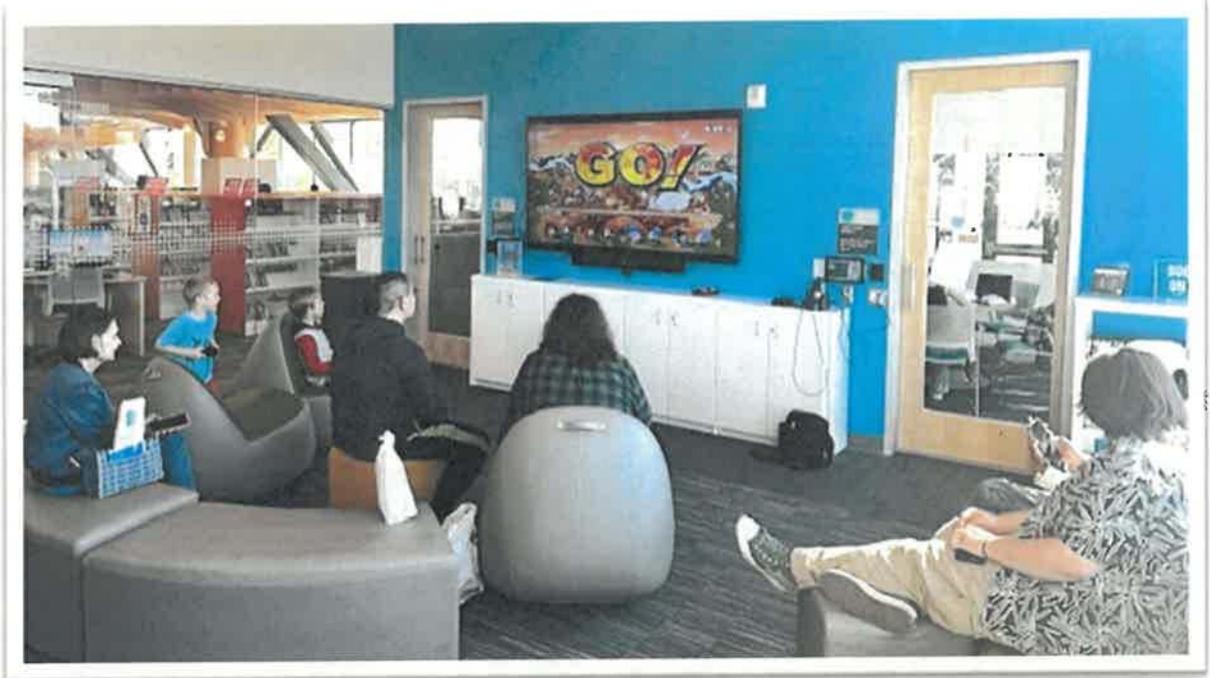


- *Summer Learning Program - Soul 4 kidz*

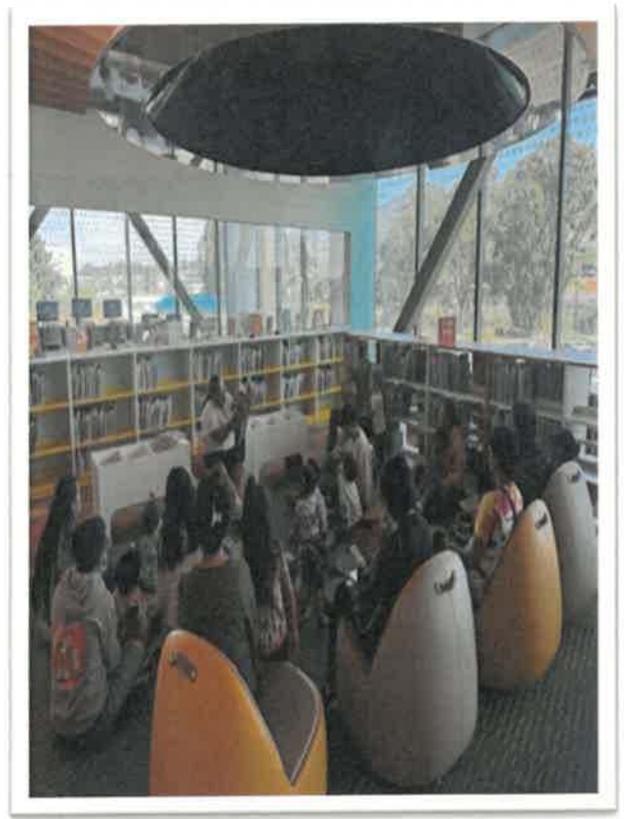
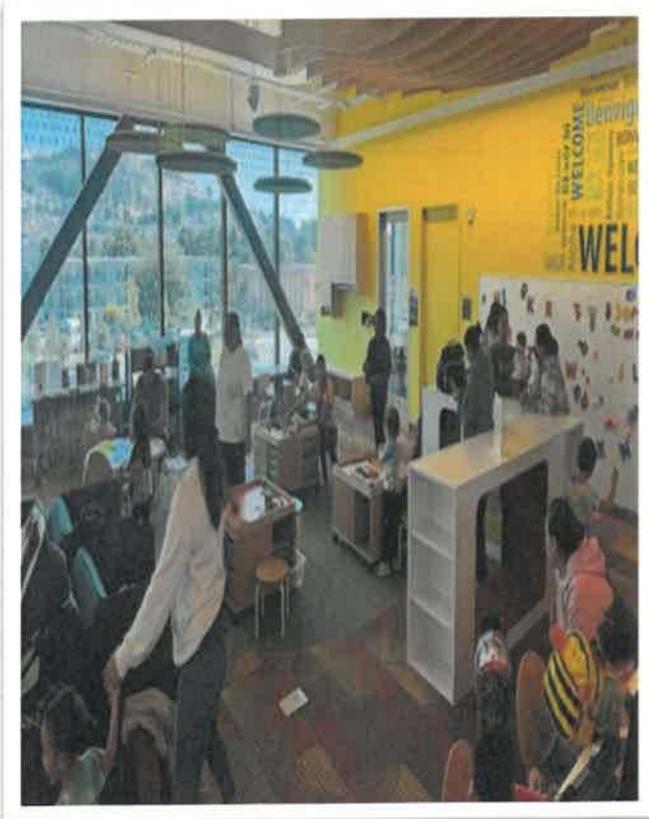
Soul 4kidz performed an hour-long set of children's songs with a soulful twist in the Youth Library. There were over 100 people in attendance and the band was delighted to play in the new Main Library.



- Weekly video game series in Young Adult Room



- Class visit with Village Nursery School



- Children's storytimes



*Valerie Sommer*

Valerie Sommer  
Library Director