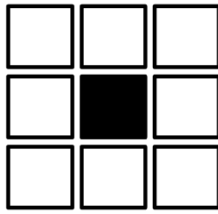


Valentine's Day Family Fun
Night 2/14/24



Howard Miller Public Library

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

February 2024

Teen Try-It Tuesday
2/8/24



Library Events/Programming Highlights

- The Library hosted a Valentine's Day Family Fun Night, a take-home Leap Year time capsule activity and the multi-cultural program celebrating Kenya along with our regularly scheduled Toddler and Preschool weekly storytimes.
- Try-It Tuesday for February had the teens painting canvas creations.

Staff Highlights

- Amanda Hanson participated in the City's goal planning sessions and completed preliminary budget submission for City Council consideration for the 2024-25 fiscal year.
- Jessica Volkers, Programming Specialist, drafted the preliminary listing for all Summer events happening during our Summer Reading Program beginning in June.
- Julie Russell, Librarian II in charge of Children's collection development, attended a webinar on the Best of 2023 in Children's literature.
- Donna Modders started as our newest Librarian I on March 5th. Donna is being trained by Lynel Danckaert, Technical Services and User Experience Manager, to help with Circulation Desk and shelving activities.

Zeeland Record Newspaper Digitization Project Update

- HML was selected to be a recipient for the Clarke Historical Library Michigan Digital Newspaper grant which will provide scanning and hosting services for the Zeeland Record from years 1893-1919. Publication years 1920-2024 will be digitized and hosted through contract services with Clarke Historical Library. The total cost estimate for these services is approximately \$62,000 to be paid for through the Library Endowment Fund proceeds.

City of Zeeland 2024 Strategic Action Plan

- The operational goals for the Library to be completed within 2024 have been determined by City and Library leadership and include:
 1. Increase community partnerships and collaborations.
 2. Refresh/update library space to encourage usage and enhance comfort for patrons.
 3. Optimize training opportunities for all staff including part-time employees.

Budget Planning for FY 2024-2025

- The operating budget for FY24-25 was created and will be proposed to City Council on March 26th. Highlights include:
 - Slight increases in allocation requests for Administrative Services line item
 - 58% increase in allocation for e-materials due to shift away from using Endowment funds to support this permanent collection

- Creation of a new line item to support the Library of Things collection
- Request for \$18,500 from the Contributions fund to cover planned updates to library furnishings and support for outreach programming
- \$70,000 from the Library Endowment Fund to cover the anticipated costs of the Zeeland Record digitization project

Looking Forward

- Quilting and Reading month in March. Over 20 quilts will be on display throughout March.

HML by the Numbers – February 2024

	February		
	2024	2023	% Change
Visitors	8,955	7,456	20%
Curbside Delivery	18	18	0%
Digital Downloads	6,825	4,825	41%
Physical Items (Circulation)	25,655	25,463	1%
Computer Sessions	437	280	56%

Children's Programs:

- 16 programs – 635 participants

Adult Programs:

- 0 program - 0 participants

Outreach Programs:

- 2 programs – 50 participants