

DATE: August 15, 2022

TO: Library Board of Trustees

FROM: Tracy Gray, Library Director
Laura Burch, Analyst

SUBJECT: **Library Director's Report**

STAFF UPDATES

The Library welcomed a new full-time Librarian, Mark Jack, in the Adult and Digital division.

NEW YORK TIMES GAMES AND COOKING

The Library has added two new resources to the digital library: *New York Times Games* and *New York Times Cooking*. Both are now available, along with *New York Times Online*, at MountainView.gov/NYT and can be accessed by following the link, redeeming the code, and logging into a linked *New York Times* (NYT), Google, or Facebook account for each resource.

Games provides access to the famous NYT Crossword puzzle as well as Spelling Bee, Sudoku, Tiles, and more, while Cooking offers thousands of recipes and cooking videos for chefs of all levels.

Access to NYT Games and NYT Cooking is generously sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library.

SUMMER READING

The Library celebrated the end of the 2022 Summer Reading program with a celebration on Monday, August 1. Onye Onyemaechi joined staff and a crowd of 146 people out in Pioneer Park for a drumming performance with Village Rhythms. Mayor Lucas Ramirez stopped by the event and shared some remarks about the importance of summer reading programs and details about the 2022 program at the Library.



The Friends of the Mountain View Library hosted a table at the event where children could create bookmarks and people could learn more about their role in supporting summer reading.

In addition to logging books or days spent reading, participants had a wide variety of programs to attend throughout the summer. The Library held enrichment activities and events for all ages, including storytimes, art and science programs for youth, and an online author series for adults. Over 1,200 children, teens, and adults participated in this year's summer reading program, which is a return to pre-pandemic levels.

HUMAN LIBRARY

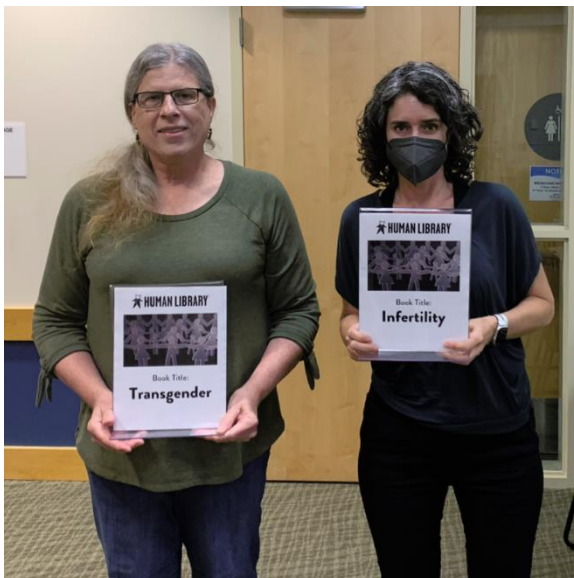
The Human Library program that took place on Saturday, July 9, was well received by the community members who came to learn about someone else's unique perspective and life experiences.

Two "books," Infertility and Transgender, were able to participate on the day of the event. They were joined by seven "readers" who registered in advance to attend. Several of the participants spoke with both books and all 12 of the available time slots were filled. Below is some reader feedback.

"I took part in the Human Library for the first time. It was a very nice opportunity to know about human diversity in America. I'm really curious about people, so it doesn't matter that the human books always have to be a 'special' person. Everyone has an interesting story. If it's possible, I want to 'read' about librarians in this library. I hope the Human Library will be held more often.

I 'read' the infertility and transgender books. They both had interesting stories. I appreciate them talking about their experiences in detail, even very private things. I enjoyed the time a lot. Thank you so much."

This program was made possible by the generous support of the Friends of the Mountain View Library.



CITY TECHNOLOGY SHOWCASE

On Tuesday, July 19, the Library participated in the Seventh Annual Technology Showcase presented by the City and the Mountain View Chamber of Commerce. Library staff spoke with 180 community members about library programs and services, gave out prizes with a spin of the prize wheel, and issued 20 new library cards.



PROGRAMS

Past Program Highlights

Families dove into an afternoon of fun as the Traveling Lantern Theater joined the Library in Pioneer Park for a fish-fact-filled adventure to the bottom of the sea. One hundred sixty-three (163) people attended this family-friendly performance sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library.



Saturday afternoons in the Teen Zone have been host to Switch It Up Saturday, a summer gaming event. Tweens can gather together from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. to play a selection of games in various formats. The program has been averaging 17 attendees each week.



Youth and Outreach hosted a virtual craft program, Nature as an Artist, on July 28. Author Jennifer Lavallee led a group of over 45 early elementary school children and their families as they learned hands-on drawing skills in sculpture building and gained exposure to art forms in the natural world. This program was sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library.



Adult and Digital hosted an outdoor bluegrass concert with the Goat Hill Girls on Saturday, July 30, in Pioneer Park. The concert was attended by an all-ages crowd of around 140 people. Some attendees danced throughout the performance, and several people let staff know how much they enjoyed the concert and asked the Library to offer more of these kinds of events. The outdoor format seemed to be popular because it allowed people to cluster in small groups with

plenty of space between them for social distancing. This program was sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library.



Sustainability advocate Marn-Yee Lee presented a LEGO engineering challenge to elementary school students. A group of 20 showed up to learn about sea water rise in the Bay Area and participants were challenged to design solutions. After developing and building their design elements, individuals presented their solutions to the group with newly found vocabulary and received feedback on the effectiveness of their models.



Other Past Programs

- Adults
 - Virtual ESL Conversation Club—Attendance: 14
 - The Good Kings: Absolute Power in Ancient, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 53
 - Sing and Play Along Ukulele Jam, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 13
 - Virtual ESL Conversation Club—Attendance: 8

- Youth
 - Preschool Math Storytime, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library— Attendance: 44
 - Origami Program—Attendance: 19
 - Family Storytime—Attendance: 157
 - Teen Hand Lettering: Create a “Fauxligraphy” Quote, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 14
 - Outdoor Storytime—Attendance: 202
 - Art Explorers—Attendance: 19
 - Preschool Math Storytime—Attendance: 52
 - Family Storytime—Attendance: 139

Upcoming Programs

- Tuesday, August 16—[Outdoor Children’s Concert—Harmony Monsters](#)
- Tuesday, August 16—[Hack the Hiring Process with LinkedIn](#)
- Thursday, August 18—[The Healing Power of Meditation](#)
- Saturday, August 20—[Drop-in Bike Clinic, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library](#)
- Monday, August 22—[The Beauty in Breaking: Author Talk with Michele Harper, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library](#)
- Wednesday, August 24—[Purifying Wastewater to Combat the Drought](#)
- Thursday, August 25—[Impact Players: How to Take the Lead, Play Bigger and Multiply Your Impact—Author Talk with Liz Wiseman, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library](#)
- Thursday, August 25—[Ask a Dietician: What You Need to Know About Carbohydrates](#)
 - Presented in both English and Mandarin

- Wednesday, August 31—[Sing and Play Along Ukulele Jam](#)
- Thursday, September 8—[Raising Thrivers: Parenting Tips & Tools to Help Kids Thrive in an Uncertain World—Author Talk with Dr. Michele Borba, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library](#)
- Saturday, September 17—[Drop-in Bike Clinic, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library](#)

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