



# STAFF REPORT

**MEETING DATE:** November 4, 2024

**TITLE:**

Library Director's Report

**AGENDA ITEM SUBMITTED BY:**

Bonnie Pierson, Library Director

**PROGRAMMING:**

On Tuesday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, Kathy Grimmitt and Elaine Dreyfus-Petry, two adult community leaders, began facilitating a French Conversation Group. Their goal is to provide a space for anyone who wants to keep up with their French language skills or learn French for traveling. They meet on the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 3:00pm and have had roughly half a dozen people in attendance at each session.

On Tuesday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, the library held its first Tween Tuesday, attracting twenty participants for a parachute-themed program. Tweens learned about the science of parachutes and built their own using recycled materials. They had fun testing their creations, promoting creativity and teamwork in a hands-on learning environment.

Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup> through Saturday, October 12<sup>th</sup> was Fire Safety week. To spread awareness, City of Bastrop firefighters attended the library's Storytime programs on Wednesday, October 9<sup>th</sup> and Friday, October 11<sup>th</sup>. The firefighters talked to the kids about fire safety and showed them their uniforms and tools before demonstrating how they put on their suits. They also had a firetruck with them for the kids to see and take photos with.

On Thursday, October 10<sup>th</sup>, twelve teens participated in a "Pet Portraits" program, part of the weekly Teen Thursday series. They created portraits of their pets or other animals while learning new tracing techniques and watercolor painting. This fun and creative session allowed teens to express themselves artistically and build new skills.

City Manager Sylvia Carrillo attended and read stories during Bilingual Storytime on Thursday, October 24<sup>th</sup>. The theme for this session was Halloween and Día de los Muertos, or Day of the Dead, and children were encouraged to dress in costumes to celebrate the occasion. A total of fourteen people attended the program.



On Thursday, October 31<sup>st</sup>, the library had a monster-themed booth at the City of Bastrop's downtown Boo Bash. Children had the opportunity to engage with friendly monster boxes, where they could guess what mystery items were inside by feeling them. Each child who visited the booth received candy and a sticker. More information on this event will be available at the meeting.

In October, community leaders Dorene Ruggs and Mary Smith taught six 8–12-year-olds how to sew. The program met the first three Saturdays of the month, where attendees made a pillowcase with a secret pocket. The next Kids' Beginning Sewing class will be next summer, but there will be Beginning and Intermediate Adult Sewing classes next spring.

The library celebrated Día de los Muertos, or Day of the Dead, on Saturday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> with a screening of a themed Disney movie. In collaboration with Bastrop High School's PALS, a sugar skull craft was also offered for children to enjoy before the movie. Further information about this program will be available at the meeting.

Eleven people registered to attend Sewing Machines 101 on Saturday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>. Attendees brought their sewing machines to this one-time program led by Dorene Ruggs and Mary Smith to learn how to use them. Our next Sewing Machines 101 class will be in January.

**NOTEWORTHY:**

On Tuesday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, the Texas State Library and Archives Commission transitioned its E-Read Texas Program from SimplyE to Boundless.

The library has made space for a local author's collection. The collection is located on the shelves facing the community art wall. Items on this shelf will be acquired by donation only; must be Young Adult Fiction, Adult Fiction, or Adult Non-Fiction materials; and authors must be residents of Bastrop County. The library began accepting donations for the collection on Wednesday, October 16<sup>th</sup>.

Youth Services Librarian Eva Bernal celebrated her one-year anniversary with the Bastrop Public Library on Wednesday, October 16<sup>th</sup>.

**UPDATES ON THE FOLLOWING:**

Friends of the Library update.

Brian Porter author event on Wednesday, October 16<sup>th</sup>

Dr. Clementine Msengi author event on Saturday, January 25<sup>th</sup>

Angela Castillo author event on Saturday, February 7<sup>th</sup>

Photo ID library cards: no new information currently.

Open House update – volunteer schedule attached to this report.

Performer lineup:

10:00 Terry Lyne Trio

11:00 Max Butler

12:00 Ben Zuniga

1:00 Honor Choir

2:00 Mary Smith

Fiscal Year 2024 Highlights – information attached to this report.

### COMMUNITY FEEDBACK:

The staff is great, and I love the activities! Keep doing what you're doing!

- Patron compliment from Feedback Form

**Bastrop Public Library Feedback Form**

Please use this card to give us your suggestions, compliments or complaints. They're important to us. Suggestions, compliments and complaints are equally important, they help us to know what we are doing right, where we can improve and anything that concerns you. Place your completed form into the box.

This feedback is a :  Suggestion       Compliment       Complaint

Please write details of your feedback here:-

*Thank you for the "LOCAL Authors" section -  
Long overdue, AND appreciated!*

"We love this place. It is such a great resource for the community."

- Patron