

Columbia Heights Public Library

Library Board Report – November 2024

BUILDING

- Electrical repairs were made to ceiling lights in the youth area.
- Adams Pest Control made a regular monthly inspection.
- Northland Refrigeration made repairs to one of the heating boilers.

TECHNOLOGY

A new library website was launched November 1. It took a couple of weeks for Google to incorporate the changed site into its search algorithms.

COLLECTION

- New books were selected from reviews in the July and August issues of *Booklist*, *Kirkus Reviews*, *Library Journal*, and *School Library Journal*. Patron requests, series titles or books by bestselling authors with December publication dates, youth holiday books and series replacements were added. Adult and youth DVDs were ordered.
- Weeding was completed in adult fiction C-K and the large print collection.
- Adult displays celebrated Native American Heritage month and featured large print missed connections, football, presidents, and cookbooks.

PROGRAMS AND SELF-DIRECTED ACTIVITIES	DATE	INTENDED AUDIENCE	ATTENDANCE
Daycare Storytime	11/1	Children (0-5)	12
Storytime	11/4	Children (0-5)	40
English Language Conversation Circle	11/4	Adult	6
Youth Services Librarian Visit to Prodeo Academy Classrooms (offsite)	11/5	Children (6-11)	84
Adult Basic Education class tour of library	11/6	Adult	16
Adult Services Librarian visit to Metro North ABE class (offsite)	11/6	Adult	15
EL Conversation Circle	11/6	Adult	5
Youth Services Librarian visit to ECFE	11/7	Children (0-5)	9
EL Conversation Circle	11/7	Adult	3
Puzzle Contest	11/9	Adult	38
Walk and Talk Book Club	11/12	Adult	
Tinker Time: Tic, Tac, Toe	11/12	Children (6-11)	23
EL Conversation Circle	11/13	Adult	4
Needle Felted Pumpkins	11/13	Adult	15
ICS 1 st Grade Field Trip	11/14	Children (6-11)	13
EL Conversation Circle	11/14	Adult	4
Active Agers Book Club (offsite)	11/15	Adult	7
Clay Gingerbread Houses	11/16	Children (6-11)	22
Storytime	11/18	Children (0-5)	51
EL Conversation Circle	11/18	Adult	3
ICS 2 nd Grade Field Trip	11/19	Children (6-11)	23
Book Club: "North Woods"	11/20	Adult	10
EL Conversation Circle	11/20	Adult	5
Loft class: Writing Better Presentations	11/21	Adult	2
EL Conversation Circle	11/21	Adult	3
Storytime	11/25	Children (0-5)	33
EL Conversation Circle	11/25	Adult	5
DIY Teen	11/26	Young Adult	5
EL Conversation Circle	11/27	Adult	3

STAFF

Elizabeth Ripley, Adult Services Librarian:

- Led a library tour for an Adult Basic Education class and visited another class at Metro North.

- Facilitated display of a karst and water pollution display from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.
- Met with the Friends of the Library.
- Made deliveries to two At-Home patrons.

Eliza Pope, Youth Services Librarian:

- Engaged 23 adults and kids in creating unique tic-tac-toe sets. Even those new to the game learned to play with help from their grown-ups. Many families who have aged out of storytime continue to attend the monthly Tinker Times.
- Contracted with Mak from Rum River Art Center to offer “Gingerbread Clay Houses” for 22 enthusiastic participants who explored their creativity and had fun while transforming clay into whimsical houses.
- Gathered with a group of four teens for a cozy night of fun and creativity. They sipped hot chocolate while crafting Perler bead designs. They were so wrapped up in their Perler bead creations, the teens stayed until the library closed.
- Welcomed first and second graders from Immaculate Conception School. Both groups were very adept at checking out materials and submitted many requests for books to borrow in the future.
- Made an outreach visit to three first-grade classrooms at Prodeo Academy to deepen students’ understanding of libraries and librarianship. Building on their recent reading of "Tomas and the Library Lady" by Pat Mora, Eliza shared additional books about libraries, discussed library cards, and answered students' questions about the daily work of a librarian.
- Visited an Infant ECFE session at the ISD 13 Family Center to present a storytime that highlighted the early literacy practices of talk, sing, read, write, and play specifically for babies.



Renee Dougherty, Library Director:

- Participated in the Anoka County Library public service team and city division head meetings.
- Attended the American Library Association CORE Leadership Forum conference on November 15-16.
- Met with the adult book club for a discussion of “North Woods” by Daniel Mason.
- Met with the CHPL Foundation; requested and received a grant for \$89,000 toward the expansion of the parking lot.

MISCELLANEOUS

- Anoka County Law Librarian John Murphy held office hours on November 21 to accommodate the library closure on Thanksgiving.
- Staff attended health insurance open enrollment meetings and the Public Safety appreciation luncheon.
- A Tiny Art Show, consisting of 32 pieces returned by community artists, was displayed.
- A karst and water pollution exhibit from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency was installed and will be displayed through the end of December.
- Eight adult volunteers donated 32 hours.