

# Columbia Heights Public Library

## Library Board Report – June 2025

### BUILDING

- Exterior windows were washed.
- Community room air conditioning was repaired due to rodent damage to exterior wiring.

### TECHNOLOGY

- IT staff adjusted print management software to prevent kids from “going around” it. Evading Comprise prevents computers from connecting to the printer, from shutting down at five minutes before closing, and from staff monitoring and oversight.

### COLLECTION

- New books were selected from reviews in the January and February issues of *Booklist*, *Kirkus Reviews* and *School Library Journal*.
- Weeding was completed in adult fiction D-F and nonfiction 700-749.
- Adult endcap displays highlighted baseball, MN outdoor activities, Juneteenth, song writing and music history. The main display featured reading during Pride month.
- The display case celebrated mycology, the study of fungi, with an exhibit of blue and pink oyster mushrooms cultivated on discarded books.



PROGRAMS AND SELF-DIRECTED ACTIVITIES	DATE	INTENDED AUDIENCE	ATTENDANCE
Family Storytime	6/2	Children (0-5)	35
English Language Conversation Circle	6/2	Adult	5
YSL Visit to Highland Elementary (6 classes)	6/3	Children (6-11)	530
YSL Visit to Valley View 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grades (2 classes)	6/4	Children (6-11)	86
Adult Basic Education Field Trip	6/4	Adult	13
EL Conversation Circle	6/4	Adult	4
Daycare Storytime	6/6	Children (0-5)	16
EL Conversation Circle	6/7	Adult	1
Family Storytime	6/9	Children (0-5)	40
EL Conversation Circle	6/9	Adult	6
Blooming Sunshine Tour (offsite)	6/10	Young Adult	9
Evening Storytime	6/10	Children (0-5)	4
Engage Community Songwriting Workshop	6/11	Adult	0
EL Conversation Circles	6/11	Adult	6
<i>Plastic People</i> Documentary	6/12	Adult	14
EL Conversation Circle	6/14	Adult	2
Family Storytime	6/16	Children (0-5)	51
EL Conversation Circle	6/16	Adult	5
Tinker Time: Botanical Bandanas	6/17	Children (6-11)	48
Mystery Book Club	6/17	Adult	6
Book Club	6/18	Adult	8
EL Conversation Circle	6/18	Adult	5
Circus Manduhai	6/21	Children (6-11)	55
EL Conversation Circle	6/21	Adult	4

Family Storytime	6/23	Children (0-5)	47
EL Conversation Circle	6/23	Adult	7
DIY Teen: Perler Beads	6/24	Young Adult/Teen	6
EL Conversation Circle	6/25	Adult	3
<del>Mapping Prejudice</del>	<del>6/25</del>	<del>Adult</del>	
MN Birds with 4-H	6/26	Children (6-11)	6
EL Conversation Circle	6/28	Adult	2
Family Storytime	6/30	Children (0-5)	40
EL Conversation Circle	6/30	Adult	7

**STAFF**

Elizabeth Ripley, Adult Services Librarian:

- Coordinated a tour of the Blooming Sunshine Garden with HeightsNext.
- Partnered with HeightsNext for a viewing and discussion of the documentary, *Plastic People*.
- Facilitated the Mystery Book Club’s discussion of *Lightning Strike* by William Kent Krueger.
- Welcomed adult learners from the adult Basic Education Center for a library tour, library card sign-ups, and a chance to find and borrow materials.
- Met Jordan Abhold from Neighborhood HealthSource to discuss future partnership possibilities, including public naloxone training programs.
- Met with the Friends of the Library.
- Met with Connie Buesgens to finalize plans for *Plastic People* screening.
- Sought a quote and completed an order for additional bookends that match existing shelving.
- Made deliveries to four At-Home patrons.

Eliza Pope, Youth Services Librarian:

- Visited Highland and Valley View Elementary schools to promote the summer reading program.
- Promoted library services at the city’s Art and Information Fair at Huset Park on June 18.
- Welcomed Circus Manduhai on Saturday, June 21.

Renee Dougherty, Library Director:

- Met with the Director, Assistant Director and Accountant for Anoka County Libraries to discuss how the county bills CHPL for services.
- Participated in an informational call with book vendor Ingram with the youth services librarian and library associate responsible for ordering collection materials.
- Participated in a training webinar for the 2025-2028 MN DNR State Park Pass grant program.
- Facilitated the Book Club’s discussion of *The Wishing Game*.
- Met with Page Karen Yaeger for her annual performance review.
- Made a presentation with the Recreation Director at the joint City Council/School Board meeting.



## **MISCELLANEOUS**

- Summer Reading began for youth and adults, with unique prizes for each cohort. All earn a free book for reading five hours and raffle tickets for reaching subsequent benchmarks. Drawings will award tickets for Twins baseball games, the MN State Fair, and Sea Life aquarium for youth and Twins games for adults.
- Anoka County Law Librarian John Murphy held office hours on June 18.
- Six adult volunteers donated 30 hours to the library: pulling holds, shelf-reading in the stacks, conducting the Conversation Circle, assisting with technology questions, and organizing the library collection.