

# Columbia Heights Public Library

## Library Board Report – November 2025

### BUILDING

- A boiler leak was repaired.

### TECHNOLOGY

### COLLECTION

- New books were selected from reviews in the June issues of *Booklist*, *Kirkus Reviews*, *Library Journal* and *School Library Journal*. A set of World Book encyclopedias (2026), Spanish language books for adults, adult nonfiction about Palestine, and youth popular series and graphic novels were ordered.
- Weeding was completed in adult mysteries A-C and adult audiobooks and DVDs.
- Adult displays featured books on aging, a mystery feast, family relationships/dealing with conflict/boundaries, football, card making and Native American heritage.
- Juvenile displays featured books by Native American authors and illustrators.

PROGRAMS AND SELF-DIRECTED ACTIVITIES	DATE	AUDIENCE	ATTENDANCE
Learn to Play Dungeons & Dragons for Families	11/1	Children (6-11)	13
English Language Conversation Circle	11/1	Adult	6
Storytime	11/3	Children (0-5)	52
EL Conversation Circle	11/3	Adult	8
Community Craft Night	11/3	Adult	4
Tinker Time: Perler Bead Donuts	11/4	Children (6-11)	18
EL Conversation Circle	11/5	Adult	7
Daycare Storytime	11/7	Children (0-5)	15
AARP Homefit Workshop	11/8	Adult	12
EL Conversation Circle	11/8	Adult	9
Storytime	11/10	Children (0-5)	56
EL Conversation Circle	11/10	Adult	8
EL Conversation Circle	11/12	Adult	9
Evening Storytime	11/13	Children (0-5)	3
Friends Puzzle Contest	11/15	Adult	25
EL Conversation Circle	11/15	Adult	10
Storytime	11/17	Children (0-5)	40
EL Conversation Circle	11/17	Adult	5
Book Club: <i>The Big Sugar</i>	11/19	Adult	8
EL Conversation Circle	11/19	Adult	4
DIY Teen: Decoden Keychains	11/20	Children (12-18)	7
Active Agers Book Club: <i>The Ride of Her Life</i>	10/21	Adults	8
EL Conversation Circle	11/22	Adult	6
Dabble in Medieval Marginalia	11/22	Adult	14
EL Conversation Circle	11/22	Adult	6
EL Conversation Circle	11/24	Adult	9
EL Conversation Circle	11/26	Adult	7
EL Conversation Circle	11/29	Adult	5

### STAFF

Elizabeth Ripley, Adult Services Librarian:

- Met with the Friends of the Library. The Friends Puzzle Challenge took place on November 15 and 24 puzzle enthusiasts attended. The first team completed their puzzle in 30:08, the second

team completed theirs in 40:24 and seconds later the third team finished in 40:26. Three participants were drawn at random to win a prize funded by the Friends.

- Worked with Conversation Circle volunteers on sharing resources, new webinar/training opportunities, and the subbing process for Circle facilitation.
- Lead a discussion of “The Ride of Her Life” by Elizabeth Letts for the Active Agers book club.
- Made five deliveries to At-Home patrons.

Renee Dougherty, Library Director:

- Participated in a focus group on Minnesota library standards and state-level resources sponsored by CRPLSA (Council of Regional Public Library System Administrators.)
- Attended meetings of the CHPL Foundation, the Anoka County Library Public Service Team, city division heads and library staff.
- Met with the assistant director of Anoka County Library and the Columbia Heights Communications Coordinator.
- Facilitated the book club discussion of “The Big Sugar” by Mary Logue.
- Conducted an annual performance review for Library Page Gordon Silva.

Eliza Pope, Youth Services Librarian:

- Hired Badwolf Adventures to lead a **Learn to Play Dungeons and Dragons** session for families. After a brief delay due to a scheduling mix-up, kids and their grown-ups learned how to create characters and embarked on a short adventure, culminating in the defeat of a frog army.
- Assisted a small group of teens and young adults at the **DIY Teen: Decoden Keychains** program in creating custom keychains using whipped cream clay, acrylic charms, and keychain blanks, piping the clay to resemble pastel frosting before arranging the charms.
- Worked with Bultum Academy to plan a field trip for kindergarteners and 1<sup>st</sup> graders which was cancelled due to bad weather.
- Delivered Tinker Time making Perler bead donuts.
- Attended an English Language Learner Family Night at Columbia Academy to connect with families, share library information and make buttons.



#### MISCELLANEOUS

- Anoka County Law Librarian John Murphy held office hours on November 20.
- Six adult volunteers donated 20 hours. Two teens volunteered for 13.5 hours.