

Youth Services at a Glance

February 2025

Teacher Packs- 2

Youth Programs- 31

Youth Attendance- 889

General Interest Programs- 5

General Interest Attendance- 154

Program Highlights

Homeschool Heroes is a weekly offering for families to help expand their homeschool experience and provide high-quality and age-appropriate lessons. During this semester, our focus on STEAM skills has pulled in a large group of attendees. The students have explored coding, group collaboration, engineering, and so much more!



Above: Homeschool students complete the engineering challenge

During the school year, we offer several drop-in craft or activity days. The drop-in programs are planned in conjunction with KASD no-school and early release days. On those days, families often visit the library looking for extra things to do and students use the library as a waiting location. In February, patrons could create valentines to keep or give away. The self-led station was stocked with ribbons, doilies, paper hearts, markers, and crayons.

Throughout the day, over 55 patrons of all ages stopped in the youth department to enjoy a bit of crafting love.

There was a zoo at the library in February! Well, it sure sounded like one during the Animal Actions Dance Party! Attendees unleashed their inner animals with themed songs and movements. Although Miss Casey loves to dance with her friends, she knows sometimes they need a break. With the help of a new dance party addition, patrons are invited to take a break at the craft table and make one of the themed crafts. This month's craft was animal masks!



Above: Dance party attendees enjoying the craft table and dancing!

Community Outreach & Collaboration

In an ongoing effort to encourage Kaukauna High School teens to visit the public library, we arranged to drop into a few English classrooms this February. Each class was asked an array of survey questions focusing on teen-specific programming. We were surprised by how many students were unaware of the multitude of resources and materials available, not to mention the events, at the Kaukauna Public Library. When asked what programs they would attend, many of the responses were related to programs that we have held in the past. As a team, we are exploring other options to market teen programs and capture their attention, hopefully resulting in higher participation numbers.

Kim Cackowski participated in the Kaukauna High School's Diversity Club's Multicultural Fair in February. The KPL table embraced Indigenous culture with various items and offered a self-led immersion into the Seven Grandfather Teachings. Attendees made bookmarks directly tied to one of the seven teachings and were invited to try a cup of freshly made strawberry drink. Many items were displayed for visual appreciation including corn husk flowers, a sweet grass braid, and a Ho Chunk-inspired black ash basket filled with packets of cedar for participants to take home.



We held the second annual Tanner Family Night at the library in February with the help of KHS NHS student volunteers. Families were invited to explore the library and participate in various stations. After visiting the conference room to enjoy a light refreshment, attendees could venture to the youth department where several large games were set up. While waiting for a turn, families could complete the Lego maker challenge or take a break in the mindful reading spot in adult fiction. Patrons then stopped at the bookmark creation station to craft a one-of-a-kind bookmark, many were put to use right away as families picked up library cards and checked out a few

favorite titles before heading home. We are already looking forward to next year!



Clockwise from bottom left: Families explore the maker challenge, a group enjoys giant checkers, friends creating bookmarks, Tanner the Tiger with a KHS volunteer.