

## DIRECTOR'S REPORT

**First Bank Grant:** The library received a \$3,000 grant from First Bank for summer programs.

**Summer Staffing:** Barb Steltz will be with us full-time June-August. This will allow us to cover Beth's shifts. At this time there are no specific plans for the fall, I hope to have a better sense of what the fall will look like in a few months.

**Library Grounds:** Spring cleanup of the grounds took place in April. Daniel Tucker pruned, Matt Gerrits cleaned up and applied bark mulch. This summer volunteers Julianne and Marissa will be helping with weeding. Unfortunately Andrea Weathers will not be able to do our planters. Chris & I learned a few tips from her and we are planning on doing them in house this summer, wish us luck!

**New tables:** The new tables for the Helmi Jensen Community Room have arrived, just in time for summer programming.

**Juneau Library Conference:** We plan to send Kari to the joint Alaska Library Association/Pacific Northwest Library Association Conference that will be held in Juneau this summer. Kari has applied for grants to help offset the cost.

## PROGRAM COORDINATOR'S REPORT

### Recent programs

- 12 people participated in a weekend long Watercolor Workshop with Pia Reilly in early March.
- Ashley Lohr has taken over doing After School Art programs for children and will likely continue next school year. We are seeing a steady increase in after-school participation. Ashley has also taken on two high school volunteers as assistants.
- Ashley's earring classes continue to be popular. We now reserve seats in each class at no cost to middle and high school students. The earring classes are a study in the use of color, how to use transparent and opaque colors. There are many return participants that are really focusing on this and developing their skills.
- We were excited to host two PHS Art Fest sessions for the first time over 4 days in April. Pia Reilly and Suzanne Fuqua did Folk Art Painting in the Helmi Jensen Room and Gus Petersen did Comic Drawing in the teen room. Using the teen room for programming when the library was open to the public was new, but we found it to be a wonderful experience and use of space. It was delightful to see the teens spread out for hours in the room using books and the internet to research. Ultimately, they

come away with a comic story of their own creation. Gus plans to offer programming in the evenings this summer for teens in the space.

- Phil Hofstetter presented an Iditarod Trail Invitational Slide Show in April, nearly 50 people attended.
- Attorney Liz Smith presented an estate planning workshop.
- Raincountry Quilters approached us about partnering on a program so in April we launched *Sew What Now?* It's a cost free, drop-in, social sewing time. It's open to anyone interested in sewing, participants bring their own projects, seek sewing guidance, or just enjoy a social sewing time. Raincountry Quilters supplies a volunteer to host the event once a month and we provide the space and advertising.
- Yoga with Karen Malcom and Yogi's Playground with Barb continued through April.

### **Upcoming programs**

- Programming for the public will slow down in May as we gear up for the Summer Reading Programs. We will be offering classroom tours to the elementary school to market summer programs and continuing with Head Start Story Time.
- We are changing the structure of Summer Stream to focus on smaller prizes that will be given to all participants throughout the program. The goal is to incentivize participation with a more equitable end result.