

## **Attachment 3: Operational Staff Briefings for October through January**

### **Adult Programs**

#### **Community Partner Programs**

##### Huntington Nurses Health Screening

In October through December, a total of 39 patrons received screenings for hypertension, heart disease, and diabetes from Huntington Hospital nurses.

##### Huntington Nurses Flu Shot Clinic

53 attendees received their flu shot on October 3. This clinic provided the community with access to a free flu shot and peace of mind that they can protect themselves with flu season just around the corner.

##### Toastmasters Talk of the Town

In October through January, 46 people attended the San Marino Toastmasters meeting to hone their presentation and speaking skills.

##### Chinese Club of San Marino

In October through December, the Chinese Club taught 16 patrons about Chinese culture. Topics included Double Ninth Festival, start of the winter season, and Chinese beading and knotting. The Chinese Club is another community partnership that allows us to provide our patrons with opportunities to learn about Chinese culture and history.

##### Joyful Living, Happy Life

In October and December, the Library partnered with the United Charity Foundation to host their Joyful Living, Happy Life seminar. 20 attendees discussed the art of saying “no” in October and 25 attendees discussed leading a life that attracts good fortune and happiness in December.

##### Coffee, Tea, and Chat

Presented in partnership with the United Charity Foundation, Coffee, Tea, and Chat continues to be a popular program. On October 25, 11 attendees participated in the Mandarin-language program, which covered the topic of using storytelling to inspire, encourage, and communicate with children. On January 31, 10 attendees discussed how to raise resilient kids. This program supports community engagement as well as personal growth and enrichment.

##### San Marino Historical Society

On October 28, the San Marino Historical Society welcomed Los Angeles County Sheriff Department's Crime Analyst, Joe Walker, as part of their Speaker Series. Walker's presentation, "Sinister San Marino Locations That Even General Patton Would Avoid" included interesting, scary, and even somewhat humorous places and stories about San Marino and its rarely discussed history. This program was attended by 60 patrons.

### East Meets West Parent Education Club

On November 3, the Library partnered with East Meets West Parent Education Club. 35 people attended a workshop with speakers Ginny Hsiao and Chris Lee, who talked about good communication skills. Programs such as this support community engagement as well as personal growth and enrichment.

### **Library Led Programming**

#### Arts & Crafts Programs

On October 17, Librarian Dahl led a DIY Fall Leaf Bowls program where 14 pre-registered and walk-in adult patrons painted and decorated a small clay bowl with fall colors and designs. On December 19, Librarian Dahl led a Gnome Cookie Jar program for 11 pre-registered and walk-in adult patrons. Using a mason jar, participants used felt, faux fur, and a wooden button to make a cookie jar that looks like a gnome. These art programs allowed patrons to relax and spend time with their neighbors while creating a seasonal craft piece to display and share with others. Arts and craft programs help adults express creativity and learn a new skill. These programs were sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

#### Peaceful Puzzling

On November 7, Librarian Dahl hosted a new program called Peaceful Puzzling for 5 pre-registered and walk-in adult patrons. The program was re-introduced on January 30 and had 2 people in attendance. This program was created to allow patrons to relax while working on a jigsaw puzzle either in small groups or alone. Puzzling has the benefits of helping to improve memory, improve fine motor skills, and help with stress management. This program was sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

#### Adult Coloring

On January 16, Librarian Dahl hosted a relaxing and creative session of Adult Coloring for 9 pre-registered and walk-in patrons. This program offered participants the opportunity to unwind and express their creativity through intricate designs and vibrant colors. Adult coloring has been shown to promote mindfulness, reduce stress, and enhance focus. Whether working individually or chatting with others, patrons enjoyed a peaceful and creative atmosphere. This program was sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

#### Word Warriors: Adult Spelling Bee

On January 18, Library Assistant DeMeo hosted a fun and challenging Adult Spelling Bee for 3 enthusiastic participants and two audience members. This program provided an opportunity for patrons to test their spelling skills in a friendly and supportive environment. The Spelling Bee not only encouraged friendly competition but also helped improve vocabulary and cognitive function. Participants enjoyed the challenge of spelling difficult words while engaging with fellow community members. This program was sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

## **Youth Programs**

### Family Storytime

In October through January, 568 people (combined) attended Family Storytime for ages 0-5. Between stories, songs, fingerplays, and dances, staff modeled early literacy tips for caregivers. Storytime programs not only promote language development, but also concentration and social skills to better prepare children for a classroom setting.

### Maker Mondays

In October through January, 96 people attended Maker Mondays. This STEM program featured painting with LEGOs, Magna-tiles, bridge / boat building, and spaceship building. Programs such as this provide the benefit of an informal learning program that challenges children academically and expands their creativity. This program was sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

### Story, Stomp, & Sing

In October through January, Librarian Torres presented a monthly storytime in partnership with the San Marino Music Center to 129 people. This music-focused early literacy program featured instrument exploration, songs, fingerplays, dance, and books on the themes of Halloween, Thanksgiving, family / traditions, and Caldecott-award-winning books. Children's music programs have been shown to provide benefits such as strengthening attention, working memory, and perseverance.

### Tiny Pumpkin Art Show

During the month of October, 113 artists ages 3 and up took part in a Tiny Pumpkin Art Show "take and make" craft. Participants were provided materials to decorate their petite pumpkin, and afterwards the miniscule masterpieces were put on display at the Library for a chance to win a prize. City Manager Eskandar served as the judge and selected the winners from each age group. Art activities such as these provide such benefits as strengthening fine motor skills, creativity, imagination, confidence, and independence. This program was sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

### Collecting Cryptids

On October 11, 8 children in grades 4-6 learned about the creepy and fascinating history of cryptids across North America. After an overview of some of the most notable cryptids such as Mothman and the Jersey Devil, attendees were challenged to work in groups, collect clues throughout the Library, and solve the mystery of the cryptid assigned to their group. Scavenger hunt programs such as this provide benefits such as promoting social skills and critical thinking, and engaging children in history through primary sources. This program was sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

### The Ocean Adventure: Our Octopus Friends

On October 13, 49 attendees joined professional divers from "The Ocean Adventure" to learn about octopuses' underwater world. Divers demonstrated the actual underwater equipment used on these journeys, gave an introductory lesson on octopuses, followed by a high-definition digital image presentation. Programs such as these provide benefits such as teaching children the importance of habitat conservation

and respect for animals' needs, and creating a connection between attendees and nature. This program was sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

#### Broomstick Bash

On October 30, 33 participants gathered in costume for an after-school Halloween dance party at the Library. Attendees enjoyed spooky refreshments, made monster masks, took pictures with a coven of witches, and boogied the afternoon away to the "Halloween Freeze Dance." Programs like this provide benefits such as enhancing gross motor skills as well as social skills. This program was sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

#### Soapstone Carving Workshop

On November 16, the Library hosted a soapstone carving workshop for 47 people with Lazaro Arvizu. Arvizu gave an introduction and displayed the stonework of the Gabrielino/Tongva people. Registrants then had the opportunity to create their own unique soapstone pendant necklace. In alignment with Native American Heritage Month, programs like this call attention to the culture, traditions, and achievements of the nation's original inhabitants and their descendants. This program was sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

#### Go With the Glow

On December 5, 10 tweens attended an exclusive glow-in-the-dark paint party to kick off the winter season. Surrounded by black light, participants snacked on fluorescent food and then created an original glow-in-the-dark painting with guidance from Library staff. Programs like this provide benefits such as focusing on fine motor skills as well as social skills. This program was sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

#### Paul Stein: Fiddle Fireworks

On December 14, violinist Paul Stein returned to the Library for a family concert featuring such composers as Mozart, Vivaldi, and Bach. The 28 attendees were also given the opportunity to learn about the science of how the violin creates sound and got to try their hand at playing rhythm instruments as well. Music programs like this provide benefits in children such as cognitive development and emotional expression. This program was sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

#### Baby Sensory Gym

On January 10, the Library brought back two sessions of the popular Baby Sensory Gym program for six attendees (total) ages 0-2 and their caregivers. Babies had free range of activities including puzzles, climbing toys, bubble play, indoor stepping stones, puppets, and more. This program provides benefits such as fine motor skills, gross motor skills, and sensory play, as well as social skills and an opportunity to connect with other families in a safe and welcoming environment. This program was sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

#### Caldecott Prediction Party

Eleven picture-book-lovers met on January 16 for a specially curated preview of

potential ALA Caldecott Award recipients. The program opened with a reading of last year's winning title, "Big," and a discussion on the award criteria. Attendees then browsed through the books, voted for their favorite, and waited eagerly to hear the winner. Programs like this have the benefit of fostering children's enthusiasm for quality literature. This program was sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

## **Young Adult Programs**

### Teen Advisory Group (TAG)

7 young adults attended the October TAG meeting. Librarian Ortega shared upcoming YA programs and volunteer opportunities, and solicited ideas for upcoming YA book displays. The teens decided that their next display would feature their favorite children's books, and corresponding YA book read-alikes.

3 young adults attended the November TAG meeting. Members were briefed on upcoming programs and volunteer opportunities, voted on December's YA book display theme, and pitched ideas for program incentives. Afterwards, the group assisted Librarian Ortega with preparing materials for discard.

7 young adults attended the January TAG meeting. Members brainstormed and discussed ideas for the Library's February YA book display and summer programming. After much deliberation, members took a vote and agreed to commemorate Black History Month on the book display.

### Board Game Café

In October through January, 66 young adults attended the Library's monthly Board Game Café. Teens enjoyed this safe after-school space, which provided them with the opportunity to actively learn through strategy games and to connect with one another. Popular board games included Uno, Jenga, and Throw Throw Burrito. This program was sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

### YA Monster Mash!

On October 29, 30 young adults attended the Library's YA Monster Mash! program to celebrate TeenTober, a nationwide celebration of teens by libraries. Young adults enjoyed an array of Halloween themed activities like board games, crafts, cauldron toss, and pumpkin bowling, which allowed them to connect with their peers and express themselves creatively in a safe space during after school hours. This program was sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

### Dinovember Bookmarks

On November 12, 13 young adults dropped by the Library to make their very own dinosaur bookmarks to celebrate "Di-November." Attendees engaged in personal expression through the utilization of paint and markers to create an original work of art which they took home to keep track of their reading progress. This program was sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

### YA Winter Perler Beads

On December 10, 15 young adults expressed themselves through the design and fusion of winter Perler bead decorations such as penguins, reindeer, and snowmen. The intricate design process provided a relaxing and creative outlet for the participants with a keepsake they were excited to take home. This program was sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

### Coffee and Crammin'

From December 17 through 19, 42 high school students attended Coffee and Crammin': an exclusive study space with refreshments in the Barth Community Room for high schoolers as they studied for their final exams. Programs like this provide benefits such as promoting self-direction and productivity skills, while supporting students' academics. This program was sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

### Poetry Out Loud

On January 21, four local high schoolers participated in the Library's first annual Poetry Out Loud local competition. This poetry recitation competition is designed to improve entrants' public speaking skills, help build confidence, and teach them about literary history and contemporary life, for a chance to qualify and compete in the Los Angeles County competition. The competition was organized with the support of the Los Angeles County Office of Education's Arts & STEAM coordinator. The winner of the Los Angeles County competition advances to the California state contest to compete for a spot in the National Poetry Out Loud finals in May for a chance to win a scholarship.

## **Class Visits and Outreach**

### Valentine Elementary School Class Visits

In October and November, Librarian Torres made outreach visits to all three TK classes (66 people) at Valentine Elementary School. Librarian Torres shared stories and songs on the themes of autumn and Halloween in October and family and gratitude in November. Public library outreach provides such benefits as putting a familiar face on Library services, and meeting the community where they are.

On December 12, 72 students and chaperones from Valentine's TK classes took a field trip to the Library for a behind-the-scenes tour and storytime. Students left donning "future librarian" stickers and proudly became new members of the Library with their new Library cards.

## **Passports**

In October, staff processed 277 passport applications. Total revenue earned from passport services was \$13,145. Staff answered 141 in-person passport related questions.

In November, staff processed 218 passport applications. Total revenue earned from passport services was \$10,810. Staff answered 113 in-person passport related questions.

In December, staff processed 220 passport applications. Total revenue earned from passport services was \$10,820. Staff answered 106 in-person passport related questions.

In January, staff processed 247 passport applications. Total revenue earned from passport services was \$12,335. Staff answered 120 in-person passport related questions.

### **Crain Art Gallery**

*Simplicity in Acrylic: Paintings on Canvas*, an exhibit of work by artist Sonnie Hildreth opened on October 12. Originally from Brazil, Hildreth emigrated here in the 1980's. Her vibrantly colored canvases evoke a sense of peace and optimism. The artist states, "As I find myself in my later years, I feel I can continue to celebrate what life presents to me, and to contribute some of my sense of purpose and joy to others through my paintings." Around 50 people attended a reception for the artist on Saturday, October 20. This exhibit ended on November 23.

A solo art exhibit of collages by San Marino artist E.M. (Lisa) Sloan ran from December 7 through February 1. A reception for the artist occurred on Saturday, December 7 and was attended by over 70 people. Her work is inspired by a love of color, found imagery, and her own photography. She holds an MFA degree from Michigan's Penny Stamp School of Art and has worked as a graphic designer and in the home renovation industry.

Coming up next, the Gallery will be hosting *Soft Detour*, an exhibit of photographs by Priscilla Mars. Mars is a Mexican-American artist working in photography and cinematography in Los Angeles. The photographs on display were made in 2024 at Lacy Park in San Marino. Mars states, "I use nature as a retreat, creating my own world by capturing it as close as I can get with my lens, transforming and softening the landscape into shapes and colors. Returning to the same location at morning, noon, and night over spring, summer, and fall, I witness the growth of roses and leaves, and the light and color of the landscape change and mutate. Capturing the same landscape over and over reveals previously unseen details." The exhibit runs from February 8 through March 21. A reception for the artist is scheduled for Saturday, February 8 from 2 – 4 PM in the Barth Community Room.