

BRIDGEPORT PUBLIC LIBRARY
REPORT OF THE CITY LIBRARIAN
For the Month of July 2024

As the new fiscal year begins, we are compiling annual statistics, narratives and other reports for the end of FY 2023 and preparing for the new year. The Summer Reading Program is underway at all locations. Outreach activities in July included attendance at the Puerto Rican Day Parade, DSSD Farmer's Market at McLevy Green, and other events. We have been invited to table at the Mayor's Backpack Giveaway event for the fourth year in a row, and will have planned an Education Open House at Burroughs-Saden Library that will tie-in with the Saturday, August 17 event. We anticipate being able to demonstrate many of the programs and services we offer to parents and students, many of them new residents and speakers of languages other than English. We will highlight our online library, the Children's Department, and the Circulation Department for library card sign ups. We will have community partners table in the Pop Room, including Literacy Volunteers, the Friends, MIRA, and Alliance. Staff at Burroughs Library have had several planning meetings this month for the Open House.

We have been invited to a backpack giveaway event at the Bridgeport Rescue Mission on August 10 and will send staff to table at the event. day as our Open House, and should be able to send a staff member to that event as well.

Digital Navigator activities include an in-person meeting, ordering devices for instruction, and planning for events to bring awareness for Digital Inclusion Week, October 7 – 11, 2024. There will be a kick-off event at New Haven Green in August to promote the start of the IMLS Regional Sharing Digital Navigator Program.

I have renewed the library's Sam.Gov registration. The State Library has released its survey; it is due October 1.

The ribbon cutting event for the new Bridgeport Entrepreneur and Innovation Center on July 18 was well attended. There is great interest in this space for business mentoring and incubation.

I attended the retirement party for Carl DeMilia, Executive Director of Bibliomation on July 11. He is replaced by Alessandra Casiello.

I will be attending a two-day Leadership Retreat with city department heads at the University of Bridgeport on September 12 – 13, 2024.

I will be on vacation Thursday August 15 through August 20 and will return on August 21.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elaine Braithwaite
City Librarian
August 21, 2024