

BRIDGEPORT LIBRARY

Black Rock Branch Monthly Report January 2023

Manager: Michele A. Jacobson

Service Statistics	Number of new library cards: A:14, J:7, YA:1 Total 22 Number of visitors: 1437	Number of questions answered: R:208 D:248, T:178 Total:635 Number of interlibrary loans (in/out) IN:193/OUT:253 Outside Room Use: 7
Collection Statistics	Adult: 25770 Teen: 1961 Children: 17332 Total: 45063:	A&V materials: 8826 Magazines & Newspapers: Discarded: 475 Added:63 Hotspots: 30
Circulation Statistics	Adult: 905 Teen:19 Children: 428 Total: 1352	A&V materials: 400 Magazines & Newspapers: 29 Hotspots: 9
Public Internet Usage	274	
Programming Milestones	-New Book Club! -Parents as Teachers is promoting us to their Bpt. Hospital clientele. -Several Black History month programs are ready to go or will be soon.	
Staff Development	Staff are considering their current duties and roles and whether they would like to trade some tasks or learn new skills. Jeff and David will be taking on program stats and daily stats respectively. Jeff will also take on more of the fiction purchases as well as nonfiction while Michele concentrates on material for children and teens.	

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Read a good book, Get a Library Card (from *Ten Things to Do in January*, by Charmaine j. Forde)

Black Rock hopes to keep up with the New Year Resolutions we make every year. So, Jeff added new programs beginning with a new Book Club. It's first meeting was mostly staff, but it was an interesting discussion, nonetheless. Coming in February, we have a Black History choice on tap. Not to be outdone, Sarah created a story program for Fridays "Stories with Sarah." Parents have inquired about it, but so far, we have not seen the kids. Jeff's program on true crime and serial killers gained sixteen participants on Zoom while Trina's arts and crafts get us three to six children—and sometimes, we don't see anyone. Michele has the same spotty issues with Play n Tell. As always, we get a lot of calls about the programs, but translating calls into visits is a difficult proposition. Digital Navigation and Computer 101 have slowed down considerably this month, as have most children's programs. We also had a visit from the City Health Department, checking on blood pressure.

We are making connections with area institutions. The Bridge Academy wants to have a tour, while Bridgeport Hospitals "Parents As Teachers" coordinator Gwen Driffen hopes to show parents what wonders the library can offer. Meanwhile, Richard Foley and Michele are still hammering out plans for him to teach an ESL class in the Spring. Michele was contacted by the Black Rock Art Gallery (BRAG) about having a show later on in the year. The Black Rock Centennial Committee is also interested in us participating in the Fayerweather Lighthouse Centennial later on in the year. They even sent us the information pertinent to the replica of the light house that graces our lobby.

Jeff and Michele have several Black History Month Programs in preparation while Trina gets us ready for February with guessing games, décor and puzzles. In an effort to promote our Take Your Child to the Library Story Hour on February 4th, Sarah G. contacted radio Star 99 and asked if popular radio personalities, Ann and Raven would come in to read to the kids. They regretfully informed her that they would be unable to do so, but took down information and promised to give the library a shout out on the 4th.

We have been beset by a lot of illness this month and so staffing has been short. And we have had run ins with a bold cell phone thief who maintains a strangely friendly and cheerful demeanor, even when being tossed out of the library and informed that he has been permanently banned. On the plus side, one of our favorite patrons, browsing some of the job information on our bulletin board, found himself a full-time job that still allows him flexible time to care for his young daughter.