

BRIDGEPORT LIBRARY

ADULT SERVICES

RandR:

Professional development:

New LAI John Tiberi started in March. He is doing well in training and learning the Adult Services department. He is being cross trained in other public services departments; circulation, children's, and teens. John has adjusted well, and is also working with Andre O'Connor as another digital navigator, and computer class instructor.

Adam Cleri:

- Collaborated with LAI Mike Hawkins. They recorded this month's library podcast episode, "Episode 2: Bridgeport to Hollywood".
- Edited and posted the podcast episode on YouTube; it will be posted on the library podcast episode page.
- Attended a community night at school with LAI Joyisha Smoak.
- Weekly supervised the creation of the newsletter. Adam wrote the joke of the week, quiz of the week, and some of the programs posts. The newsletter was also edited by Branch Manager Anna K. The newsletter was emailed and posted on Facebook.

Jeff Coutts:

- Continued to create carts in Midwest Tape, Baker & Taylor and Overdrive.
- Administered the program A Vote of Her Own: The Fight For Women's Suffrage in Connecticut on March 23, 2024. There were 7 attendees.
- Worked with Assistant City Librarian Laura Matthews on the forthcoming database survey.
- Continued to look into Kanopy as an additional database for the library.
- Worked to create and promote library programs for the spring.

Katherine Mozier-Tichy:

- Set up Mercy Learning Center trips to the library (Being held in April)
- Exchanged emails with the Paugussett Clan Mother: summer & fall programming
- Worked on a New Fiction cart to be ordered in Baker & Taylor
- Created an "Introduction to BPL Services" presentation for the Mercy Learning Center.
- Joined CLA Legislative committee

Andre O'Connor: Library Assistant III/Digital Navigator

Digital navigator (33 total)

- 1 virtual one on one classes
- 6 new devices for participants (tablet)
- 26 in person one on one tech help8+24+
- 15 lessons

- 11 tech/ fixing devices
 - Computer classes
- Notary: Helped 13 patrons
Passport: Assisted 3 families

Ongoing Programs:

- Adult game night
- Adult Computer Classes

BHC:

Elizabeth Van Tuyl and Jaime Pettit attended the annual New England Archivists conference in Providence, Rhode Island, March 15th and 16th. They both attended very helpful sessions given by fellow colleagues from regional institutions. Some topics covered were *Managing Born Digital collections*, *Critical Historiography in the Classroom: Teaching Primary Sources with a Social Justice Lens*, *Challenging Content*, *Challenging Project: Divided America*, *Collecting LGBTQ+ History: Three Rhode Island Community-Based Projects*, *Artists' Use of Archives*, and several more. Both archivists found these sessions and making connections with other archivists very helpful. Speaking with some of the vendors proved fruitful as well.

Elizabeth VT. and Jaime P. hosted 13 advanced students from Fairchild-Wheeler High School. Students were given an opportunity to work with primary source materials from the 19th Century. The students conducted their work for about 3 ½ hours. One student might do an internship at the BHC this summer.

Programming

Memoir Writing Workshop took place again after a last-minute February cancellation. The group was very pleased to meet with instructor Michael Brelsford both in person and remotely. Brelsford will most likely work in one "extra" workshop before the end of the fiscal year to make up for the March cancellation.

Highlights

- E. Van Tuyl and J. Pettit attended two more meetings for the "My Town, My Story" (MTMS) project. The History Center was selected as a participant in the MTMS project. The project is a joint effort between the CTDA and CT Humanities. The BHC is working with doctoral candidate Kenia Rodriguez and the CTDA staff to find innovative ways to collect materials from community groups and individuals for preservation and presentation.
- Pettit submitted a short preservation grant to the National Film Preservation Foundation (NEH) to restore and make accessible a small amount of footage of the building and opening of the Golden Hill Methodist Church, ca 1927.
- Michael Hawkins made significant progress with his cataloging of the BHC's cabinet card collection. He has created several hundred catalog records for the collection. All records contain an image and will eventually be searchable on the CTDA by the public.
- BHC continues to receive positive responses to its Instagram posts.
- Pettit crafted a BHC social media policy and procedure manual.

- Van Tuyl has now arranged for a visit from National Portrait Gallery staff re. the transfer of presidential portraits by artist George Burroughs Torrey. Both a curator/Collections Director and conservator will visit in mid-April and examine all 11 portraits.
- Continued corrections/additions to current online sources such as finding aids and collection guides.
- Continued cataloging work in BHC's collections management software.
- Management and planning for the BHC's storage area continued. There is an ongoing need to buy and implement supplemental shelving as a work around to inadequate storage in the stacks and cages, but there are limitations.
- Continued selected deaccession activities. Some issues of 19th Century newspaper titles were sent to the Lincoln Library in Springfield, Illinois.
- Archival staff assisted on the Adult Service desk.
- Third year Yale Univ. doctoral candidate Amanda Rivera continued her work interviewing members of Bridgeport's Puerto Rican community about bi-lingual education, especially in the 1970s. BHC is providing equipment and also garnering the interviews from her research for the permanent collection. BHC plans to make these interviews digitally available by the end of May.
- BHC fielded multiple reference requests based on the department's large collection on the Locomobile Company.

Successes/Concerns:

- After several weeks experiencing problems with the air in BHC, there seems to be a normalization of the atmosphere. The temperature remains problematic.

YOUTH SERVICES

Programming:

- Women's History Month Storytime & Craft was on Wednesday, March 6th (7 children and 3 adults attended)
- St Patrick's Day Storytime & Bingo was on Wednesday, March 13th (21 children and 8 adults attended)
- Girl Power Goes to the Movies: Encanto was on Wednesday, March 20th (12 children & 4 adults attended)
- Sand Art Craft was on Saturday, March 23rd (12 children and 3 adults attended)
- **Saturday Drop-In Crafts**
 - March 2nd (15 children, 7 adults)
 - March 9th (13 children, 10 adults)
 - March 16th (18 children, 8 adults)
 - March 23rd (13i, children, 3 adults)
 - March 30th (12 children, 3 adults)
- **Little Learners**
 - March 5th (7 children, 4 adults)
 - March 12th (3 children, 3 adults)
 - March 19th (5 children, 3 adults)
 - March 26th (8 children, 5 adults)
- **Monday Crafternoons**
 - March 4th (4 children, 3 adults)
 - March 11th (8 children, 5 adults)

- March 18th (6 children, 4 adults)
- March 25th (7 children, 4 adults)
- **Lego Club**
 - March 7th (15 children, 10 adults)
 - March 14th (3 children, 1 adults)
 - March 21st (5 children, 3 adults)
 - March 28th (7 children, 4 adults)

Outreach:

- Monday, March 18th, Kristin G., and Sirila L. attended a Literacy Night at Read School. Spoke with about 25 people and brought back 10 completed library card applications.
- Thursday, March 21st, Kristin attended a Literacy Night at New Beginnings Family Academy. Spoke with about 35 families and 75 individuals. Staff brought back 24 completed library card applications.

Kate Mozier-Tichy/Teen Department:

- Held Self-Care Kits program
- PS4 March Madness program
- Created AI & ChatGPT presentation (Tektok program)
- YA March release cart
- Contacted CT History Day to create team to coach Bridgeport students
- Financial Literacy Bulletin board

Displays:

- In March, we had book displays for Women's History Month, Spring, St Patrick's Day, Easter, and Ramadan.
- Our bulletin board theme is *Hello Spring!*

Collection Development:

- In March, we primarily weeded summer reading titles that are coming off of the current list.
- We ordered new summer reading titles, award winners, and Nutmeg nominees for 2025.

Passports:

- Taslima, Joy, and Andre completed 19 passport applications during the month of February.

March 2024, Adult Program/Meeting Room Information

DATE	Count	COMMUNITY PROGRAM	LIBRARY PROGRAMS	NOTES
3/02/24	6	1st. floor. Mom, Dad, Art Program		
3/06/24	75	1 st floor. Black History Celebration		
3/06/24	5		3rd. floor., Computer Class BPT Library	
3/06/24	2		2 nd floor., Adult Game Night	
3/06/24	75	1 st floor., Bridgeport Residents About Education		
3/07/24	6		3rd. floor., Computer Class BPT Library	
3/13/24	6		3rd. floor., Computer Class BPT Library	
3/13/24	1		2 nd floor., Adult Game Night	
3/13/24	32	100 Girls Leading		
3/14/24	5		3rd. floor., Computer Class BPT Library	
3/16/24	18	51 st Street; Non Violence Organization (Seek to end gun violence).		
3/17/24	18	51 st Street; Non Violence Organization (Seek to end gun violence).		
3/27/24	5		2 nd floor., Adult Game Night	
3/27/24	50	God's Team		
3/27/24	4		3rd. floor., Computer Class BPT Library	
3/28/24	5		3rd. floor., Computer Class BPT Library	
3/28/24	2	Sarah's Beauty Academy		
3/30/24	8	1st. floor. Mom, Dad, Art Program		
3/30/24	14	Phoenix Performance Art: Chinese Dance		
Total	337			