

Executive Director’s Report



October 2022

Outreach and Engagement

Library Days at The Moorings

Senior and Accessible Services staff were excited to finally resume Library Days outreach events at The Moorings of Arlington Heights. These were the library’s first in-person programs at The Moorings since the pandemic. Staff highlighted the wide variety of services and programs the library offers including Library of Things assistive devices and the Illinois Talking Books service. Forty-nine residents attended Library Day events where staff issued four new library cards, registered two new home delivery customers, and enrolled three new Talking Book customers.



 **The Moorings of Arlington Heights**
 about 2 weeks ago 

The Senior Services staff from Arlington Heights Memorial Library swung by The Moorings earlier this week to share with residents all the amazing, free resources that the library has to offer. 📖

From audiobooks and unique programs, to the BookMobile and home delivery, there's plenty of options for residents to reignite their love for reading! 📖 They ended the presentation by enrolling everyone for library cards right then and there. Thank you for stopping by and spreading the word!

St. John’s Fall Fest – Staff participated in this ‘first ever’ fall festival held at St. John United Church of Christ on September 9. The library offered crafts for children and shared information about the variety of services available from the library.



One Book One Village Around Town!

District 214 Women’s and Children’s Center - Staff visited Forest View District 214 Women’s and Children’s Center for a classroom presentation of One Book One Village (OBOV) 2022 and a bookmobile visit. Thirty-five students learned about the library’s OBOV, ESL services, and how to get a library card. After the presentation students and their children gathered outside to explore the bookmobile. It was the first time many of these families had been inside a bookmobile, which they described as a wonderful experience.



Kinokuniya Bookstore On September 27, staff facilitated a lively book discussion at Mitsuwa’s Kinokuniya Bookstore. A mix of native speakers and English language learners – share their thoughts on this year’s selection.

ESL Japanese Tea Workshop at the Makerspace



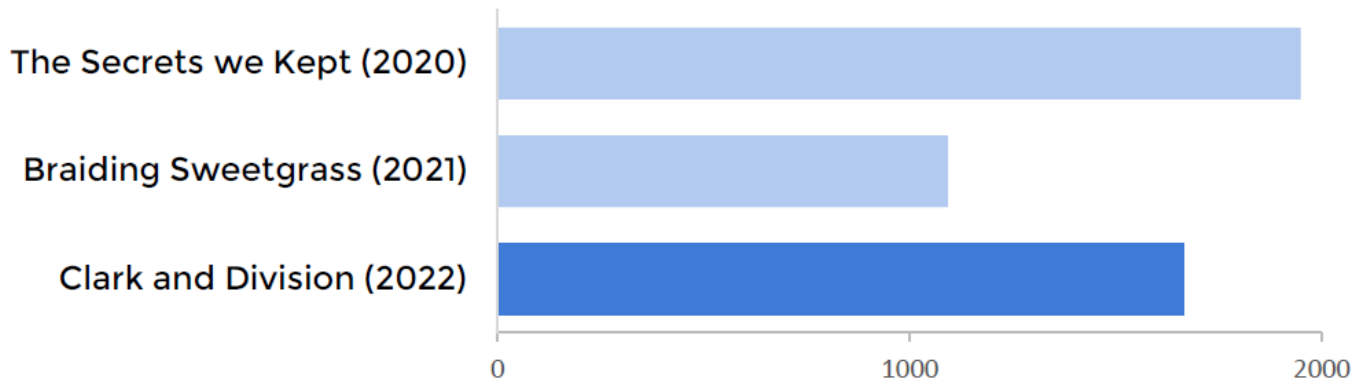
Harvest Fest at Miner School – 53 people learned more about library services and events and enjoyed library giveaways at Harvest Fest at Miner School.



Serving Our Community

OBOV Collection Highlights

Clark and Division is very popular! We are approximately halfway through the program and by September 29, *Clark and Division* has circulated 1,666 times, more than the 2021 OBOV title and is nearing the total circulation of the 2020 OBOV title.



eFormats



Physical
Formats

eFormats (eBook and eAudiobook) make up over 20% of the circulation of the 2022 OBOV title.

Stab Bookbinding

Our 2022 One Book, One Village programming kicked off with a bang when 29 people came out for this pair of hands-on workshops curated by Programs and Exhibits Specialist Neal Parker with returning artist Regin Igloria. Attendees were a diverse group, more so than our typical program audience, and ranged in age from teens through retirees. Regin had examples of various stab bindings and supplies at tables. He gave some history of the binding process and discussed equipment.

Life in a Japanese American Internment Camp

On September 20, Programs and Exhibits Specialist Neal Parker welcomed 37 attendees to a presentation by Sarah Okner, a local librarian who has presented in libraries across Illinois for over a decade. Sarah does a wonderful job telling her family's story in this presentation. She told the story of her grandparent's experience in internment camps to describe what daily life was like in the camps. She tells the story from the beginning, starting with EO 9066 and how that led to internment. While life in the camps was dehumanizing, Sarah discussed activities that provided a sense of normalcy -- boy scouts, girl scouts, baseball teams, volleyball teams, etc. Her goal in this presentation is to educate audiences about the treatment of Japanese and Japanese Americans.

The History of Japanese American Chicago

Programs and Exhibits Specialist Neal Parker hosted Erik Matsunaga, a local historian, and the upcoming moderator for Naomi Hirahara's author night event. Following in the footsteps of the Stab Bookbinding program, this program attracted a more diverse audience of 35 attendees with ages ranging from early 20s-70s and an even split of men and women.

Erik was excellent and his presentation was very in depth, his calm and lowkey demeanor fitting the serious nature of this program. He discussed the internment of Japanese Americans, what their experience was like, their resettlement in Chicago, and the establishment of Japanese American communities in Hyde Park, Clark and Division, and Lakeview. He then turned things over to his guests, Mariko, Michael, and Ross, who shared personal histories of growing up in these neighborhoods which brought a sense of immediacy to the presentation. The attendees were thoroughly engaged and some spoke about their own family's experience in internment camps, sharing a common theme that their parents didn't want to discuss their experience. Erik and his guests brought posters, photos, and a scrapbook of ID cards and work passes from Gila River which immersed attendees additionally in the subject. One customer commented:

- *Everyone was articulate and shared meaningful information. One woman in attendance told me this is the first time she had heard about the concentration camps. This is the reason that these programs are so important. Libraries educate the general public on this historical time, the hardships and discrimination the Japanese had to endure.*

Suminagashi: Floating Ink

Sixteen young artists ages 5-8 tried their hand at making marbled prints using floating ink on September 8. The program, held in the Makerplace's creative arts space, introduced the Japanese print-making method as part of this year's One Book, One Village initiative. Participants discussed what "marbled" meant and were briefly introduced to suminagashi's Japanese origins.



Teen Lotería Night

Youth Services Advisor Angie Moreno, hosted Teen Lotería night to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month on Friday, September 23. Lotería is a game played in many Hispanic countries that is very similar to bingo but uses pictures instead of numbers. Nine teen attendees played for a chance to win “Hub Bucks” (an invented currency for the program) to “buy” prizes. The Hub was also decorated with papel picado and banners with Hispanic country’s flags on them to further celebrate this heritage month.



Cosmic Disco Kicks Off Inclusion Awareness Month

A fantastic time was had by attendees at Cosmic Disco on September 30 for adults of all abilities. Participants made masks, danced, and played dance games to the music of disc jockey Brian and a few brave participants sang karaoke of some favorite songs. Northwest Special Recreation Association partnered with the library to provide support and transportation for those who requested it.



Teen Culinary: Let's Make a Healthy Meal! Program



Staff hosted the Teen Culinary: Let's Make a Healthy Meal! program on September 13 at the Makerplace kitchen. Throughout the program, ten teens made a healthy meal by assembling a turkey or veggie wrap, chopped their own salsa, and whipped cream from scratch to sweeten their fruity dessert. At the beginning of the program, a Teen Advisory Board volunteer spoke to teen attendees about the importance of eating healthily and how to make a balanced, healthy meal on

their own. This was the first teen program held in the Makerplace kitchen and many teens expressed their interest in other culinary programs being held there.



Museum Adventure Pass



Museum Adventure Pass, a program that allows Arlington Heights cardholders to 'check out' passes to several area museums and attractions, continues to be one of our most popular requests. Since its launch on August 22, we have issued 122 passes. To date, passes have been checked out from all 24 museum attractions offered, with the four most requested being Brookfield Zoo, Chicago Botanic Garden, Volo Auto Museum and Cantigny Park.

Library Cards

523 children received library cards through the library's partnership with School District 25. This month staff registered 54 new teacher cards through the library's ongoing Educator Library Card partnerships.

Local Partnerships

In September, Info Services Librarians collaborated with local organizations that provide services in the community to bring presentations to the library. Barb Powers hosted the Wheeling Township Assessor to speak about “Navigating the Property Taxpayer Maze.” The Assessor brought staff so audience members could speak individually with experts about their own personal issues on the topic. 53 community members attended the program.

Brittany Coleman continued the library’s relationship with IDES (The Illinois Department of Employment Security) to host a “State Employment Workshop,” where their staff discussed the intricacies of the application and hiring process for state jobs. 22 people attended.



Dann & Raymond’s return to in-person

On September 15, a positive development in library programming was the successful return on to an in-person format of the long-running, popular Dann & Raymond’s Movie Club. Fifty attendees enjoyed freshly-popped popcorn and the originality and humor of Dann & Raymond as they explored “The Golden Age of Exploitation Film” via clips on the big screen from 14 films from 1930-1954. Thank you to the Friends of the Library for sponsoring this ongoing monthly series.

Sunday Musicale: Bethany Thomas

After a successful series of outdoor performances, Sunday Musicale returned to Hendrickson Room on September 18 and featured indie rock artist and powerhouse vocalist Bethany Thomas. She and a crackerjack band gave a 90-minute, high-energy performance of largely original, indie material representing various musical styles that was enjoyed by many of the program’s regular attendees as well as some who are simply fans of this particular artist. Forty-four attended and praised her vocal talent, the band and this selection. 2022 is the first year the library offered Sunday Musicale monthly through the summer months, and it remains generously sponsored by Friends of the Library.

Garden and Produce Swap Season Ends

Sunday, September 25 marked the last garden swap of the season. Programs and Exhibits staff hosted drop-in swaps outside of the Makerplace on the last Sunday of each month, from May through September. The swaps are a space for community members to share seeds, houseplant cuttings, produce, herbs, and gardening advice. Swappers enjoyed tomatoes, zucchini, eggplant, peppers, and fresh herbs from the library's plot at the St. Viatorian Giving garden as well as tips and recipes from fellow swappers. Those who participated brought and took home everything from houseplants, succulents, and various perennials to leeks, cucamelons, heirloom tomatoes, and tarragon to eat. These programs were drop-in, with our total participation and connections growing month – to – month. Over the season, we welcomed a total of 136 on these Sunday mornings: In May we had 28 participants, June saw 22, July had 17, August had 36, and September closed out the season with 33 swappers. We look forward to continuing this community-centered program next year.

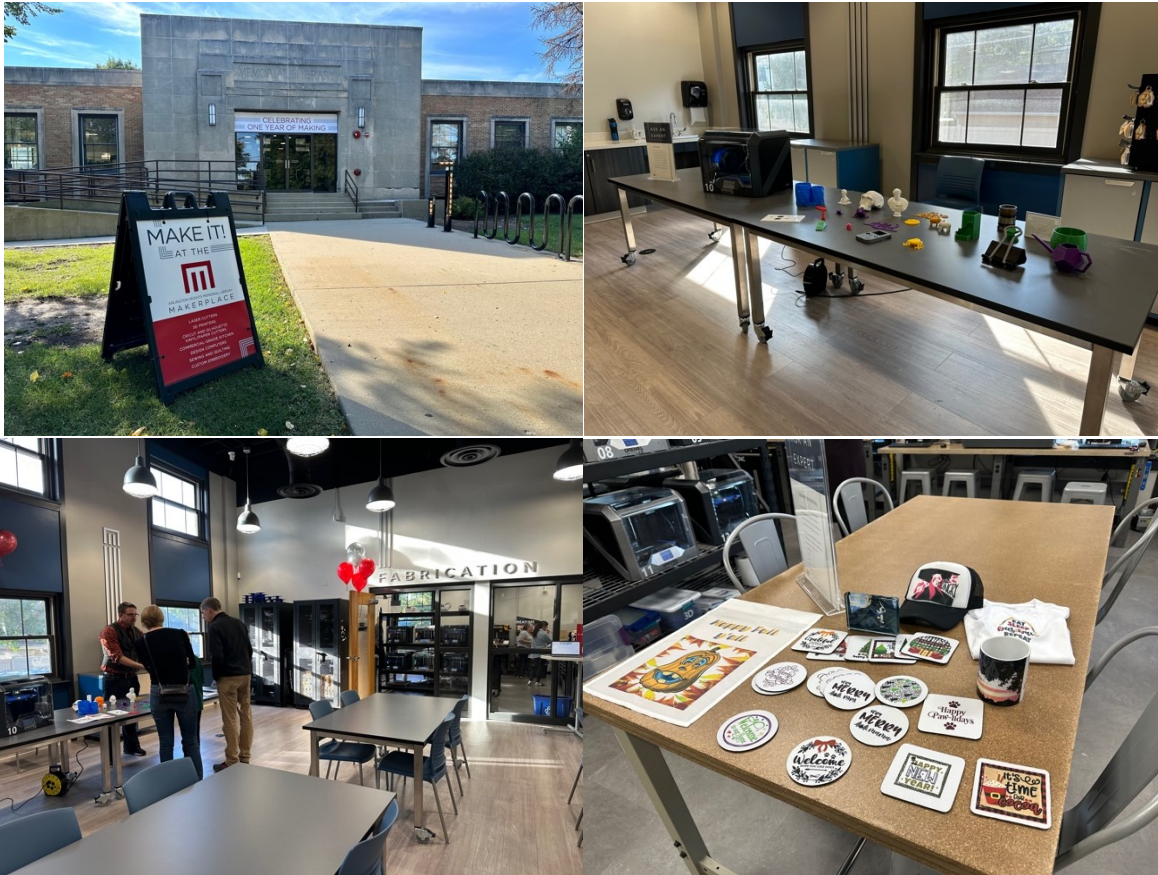
New Fence and Railing at the Makerplace

Facilities staff did a great job selecting and coordinating the installation of the new fence at the Makerplace. They also installed a new handrail on the ramp of the Makerplace vestibule.



Makerplace First Anniversary Open House!

The Makerplace celebrated its one-year anniversary with a community open house on September 29. With a turnout of over one hundred guests the Makerplace had several hands-on stations where customers could laser engrave, paper craft, and even try a snack whipped up by Chef Brian. There were also a panel of experts on hand to discuss quilting, sewing, painting, 3D printing, and sublimation printing. Along with Makerplace staff available to give guided tours customers were encouraged to wander, explore, and discover their newly one-year-old community workshop.



Makerspace Advisor Alle Volz watercolor painted this fantastic rendering of the Makerplace's lower level during the open house at the "Art Ask an Expert" station



“Inspired By” Art Night

The Makerplace held its first session of “Inspired By” Art Night where seventeen artists of varying skill levels learned about different artists and then create a piece inspired by their work. Staff presented about Yayoi Kusama, a Japanese artist known for her work with polka dots, to seventeen customers. Customers then had the opportunity to paint their own piece inspired by Kusama’s Pumpkin painting, which when paired with the warm apple cider served made for a perfect fall evening.



Make It / Design It Jewelry Workshop

In the first Makerplace jewelry workshop customers learned wire coiling techniques to create necklaces, earrings, and charms. The following week, participants attended the photography session at the Tech Learning Center where Digital Specialist Chris Smith showed techniques in digital photography to create images for social media and online shops.



Make It Early Display Case

Makerplace Specialist Lee Anne Davis curated a display case outside the Cardinal Room encouraging customers to beat the holiday rush and "Make it Early," featuring fall and holiday decor and gift items made at the Makerplace.



Makers of the Month



A customer made matching glasses and flasks for their groomsmen in their wedding.



A 9-year-old girl came in with her grandparents and she made an apron. She's been taking sewing lessons and wanted to try something a little more challenging outside of the class.



A customer came in to make sublimation designs on t-shirts and ornaments.



Two friends are surprising their kids with a trip to Disney World. They used the heat press to make shirts for their great reveal. They are new to the heat press but learned how to use it just for this project.

Staff Highlights

ILA Member Spotlight

Info Services Librarian Brittany Coleman was highlighted by the Illinois Library Association for their “ILA Member Spotlight” in September: <https://www.ila.org/news/2474/member-spotlight-brittany-coleman>

Member Spotlight - Brittany Coleman

September 5, 2022



This week's member spotlight is on Brittany Coleman. Brittany is an information services librarian at the Arlington Heights Memorial Library, and she is a former member of the ILA Diversity Committee. We asked Brittany to tell us a little bit about herself and answer a few professional and amusing questions. Continue reading to find out more about Brittany.

Staff Sublimation Event at the Makerplace

Makerspace Advisor Kathie Kielminski ran a fantastic drop-in Sublimation Printing workshop for staff. Staff learned the basics of printing, pressing, and finishing coffee mugs using the Makerplace's new Sublimation Printer and mug press. Makerplace staff welcomed over fifty library staff to the Makerplace during the event which provided a wonderful opportunity for staff to get hands on experience with some of the latest and greatest Makerplace equipment.

