

Library Director's report

Prepared by Director Susan Getty

October 3, 2017

Monthly statistics: please see attached statistical summaries for the month of September 2017.

Financial/Donations:

- We received a donation from Phantom Laboratory in the amount of \$631.00. A thank you note has been sent.
- We have now received the "Grant in Aid" check (from Senator Betty Little) for \$1000.00.
- Our Overdrive (digital materials) contribution will be going up a very small amount for next year--from 2% to 3%. This was a decision made to help fund the growing need and high demand for more digital materials.

News/Issues:

- Spectrum internet connection at the library: I have an email communication from Michele Largeteau at SALS to share.
- I have sent the library logo contest information to the art teachers at school. So far, no response from that direction. We have gotten one entry from a patron, who happens to be an artist, thus far.
- I have an account for the library set up with Better World Books. Using this organization seems like an ideal solution for us. From BWB's website: "In addition to selling new titles, Better World Books supports book drives and collects used books and textbooks through a network of over 2,300 college campuses and partnerships with over 3,000 libraries nationwide. So far, the company has converted more than 250 million books into over \$24 million in funding for literacy and education. In the process, we've also diverted more than 250 million books from landfills." They provide boxes and arrange pickup of books that are being donated. I requested 50 boxes to get us started, and these are filled and almost ready to go (HUGE thanks to Peg Culver, Peg Underwood, and Wendy Hunter). At this point, we need to formulate a plan for moving the boxes to pallets and shrink wrapping them before I arrange for pick-up.
- I've had a conversation with Al Cormier about the Walker collection of books (the old natural history book collection in the future Reading Room). We discussed the process of inventorying the books, and he had a few other good suggestions regarding the collection: getting an appraisal of sorts from Cornell perhaps, and making sure to let the public know we have the collection available for them to use. We'll need to decide for certain where is best to store these books while the work is happening in the Reading Room.
- We need to come up with a plan for coping with the mouse problem in Proudfit Hall, getting the carpets cleaned, and dealing with various building repairs (for example, the soffits on the back of the building are still an issue).

- I have been working with an artist, Suzanne Cohen, to be a community partner for her upcoming LARAC grant. She is planning a performance about Eleanor Roosevelt, which will take place at the Courthouse next spring. From our end, it's a small amount of paperwork, but we could create a coordinating program or display.
- I have discussed further with Amy Maxwell about using her landscaping class to design a new front bed for our building, and potentially carrying this project into the back courtyard as well. She is very much on board with this, and the next step is to confirm our willingness to work with them. No work on this would happen until early 2018, which is when they would start by designing plans.
- The project of expanding the kids' area by moving some shelving is very doable, according to Dave C., and he will start working on it whenever we're ready.

Programs:

- New programs: Toddler Storytime on Wednesday mornings at 10:30 (Carissa); Knitting Group will be Tuesday evenings at 6:00 starting on Oct. 10 (Marcy).
- Adult Ornament class (Sue Morrison) on Oct. 17 is full, with a waiting list. We are likely running a second class.
- We continue to add new programs as interest and resources allow. We have a suggestion list on the desk with a few ideas offered up by patrons.