**The MPL Mission**

Spark curiosity. Make connections. Thrive together.

Missoula Public Library achieves its mission by fostering community engagement, providing core services, and promoting sustainability and wellness.

* **Circulation – October 2024**

**Community Engagement**

* Elizabeth Jonkel and Slaven Lee met with Jacque from Rundle Interior Designs to discuss reconfiguration of the YA area. In preparation for the redesign of the area into a community seating area, sent six chairs for reupholstery to Montana Corrections Enterprises.
* Elizabeth Jonkel began discussions with the County Equity Coordinator on joining the Language Access Project, a translation and interpretation service proposal. This contract goes into effect January 2025.

**Core Services**

* Circulation staff met once a week to discuss procedural standards and improvements, including lost item management, AMH settings, and collection navigation.
* Circulation Leads trained the new On-Call Library Specialist (Lauren Fritzche), who started on October 28, 2024.
* Paula Johnson, Passport Agent for MPL, met with vendor PrintScan to investigate the feasibility of extending MPL services to include fingerprinting services.
* New library cards ordered to meet demand of new registrants. Increased the font on the cards to better serve patrons with visibility considerations.
* MPL was inundated with Partner crates throughout the month. Circulation staff were able to manage backlogs and maintain the department’s item management standards.
* Elizabeth Jonkel attended the annual Montana Shared Catalog meeting. State-wide developments include replacement of the smartphone app with a SirsiDynix product, launch of the MSC Library Reconfiguration Project, and the introduction of improved Boolean searching in Enterprise.
* Robert Mueller and Elizabeth Jonkel conducted a site visit at the Seeley Lake and Swan Valley branches on October 30th. This was an opportunity to review ILS settings and internal procedures, train on Microsoft365 and troubleshoot any issues.
* **Community Engagement – October 2024**

**Community Engagement**

* Participated in the All Under One Roof quarterly event of Halloween @ MPL. Over 1,200 people attended.
* Installed art by Native artists Dre Castillo and Monica Gilles BringsYellow as part and in anticipation of Native American Heritage Month in November.
* Wrapped up a very busy season of private events, primarily weddings, in October.
* The library hosted Hanif Abdurraqib, poet, essayist and cultural critic, who has written a number of bestselling books. We had approximately 150 people in attendance at this major event.
* Our Bookmobile visited the Free Verse Project Publication Release Party at Free Cycles. Many people toured the Bookmobile. We checked out books and issued library cards.

**Core Services**

**Sustainability & Wellness**

* Hosted HomeResource’s Spontaneous Construction First Friday event on 10/4, highlight reusing and recycling items into functional pieces of furniture.
* Started a program with a local student of Science in Medicine and Pain Management called Pain Savvy, educating people about wellness and pain management.
* October was the second month of the reduced guide and we did much better at estimating the number of guides to order, reducing waste and staff time. We will continue to track printing numbers to help reduce printing waste.
* **Reference – September 2024**

**Community Engagement**

* Menstrual products and dispensers have arrived and just need to be distributed across all the floors. Crystal will restock as needed so she has the numbers to report to the grant.
* Planning ways to expand passport opportunities outside the building or to drop-in days to meet the demand.
* Joleen created a digital equity survey to target our local refugee communities, low income individuals, and people experiencing homelessness. It will feature prominently at an upcoming Resource Access Day and be available as a paper survey and online.
* Led a genealogy talk with 55 western Montana retired teachers.
* Will do a genealogy program exchange with Allen County Public Library in Indiana. Desirée will lead a virtual program about MT Genealogy resources, and they will offer a reciprocal program for us.

**Core Services**

* Robert met with the Friends of the Library regarding volunteer use. Robert will start to organize quarterly library cleanings and investigate using the volunteers at our quarterly AUOR events.

**Sustainability and Wellness**

* **Youth Services – September 2024**

**Community Engagement**

* Hosted over 380 MCPS 5th graders for the museum/library field trips – gave tours of the 2nd floor and engaged students in conversation about the museum/library connection and how to be informed library users
* The 0-3 Playgroup on Tuesdays continues to be really successful – over 200 attendees across 5 programs
* Presented 2 story times and 1 craft hour during the AUOR Halloween Bash

**Core Services**

* Updated directional signs for the ranges have been put up to reflect the big shift of materials to make way for the YA collection
* Assisted in the ordering of more Arabic and Swahili books for bookmobile stops with kids who speak/read in those languages at home

**Sustainability & Wellness**

* Nothing to report this month