



November 2019

Library Services Highlights

Connect • Learn • Imagine

Learning Together and Building Community

The November calendar was filled with learning opportunities for all ages. Each of these classes and programs also gives community members a chance to come together and make connections with each other. In addition to weekly and monthly offerings, the following special events were highlights for the month.

Young scientists enjoyed **November's Family Night**. Miss Allison organized science exploration stations, such as extracting iron particles from breakfast cereal. The youngest scientists enjoyed dramatic play in lab coats.

We celebrated gratitude and Thanksgiving during our **Sensory Fall program**. Children interacted with themed sensory stations and a large motor activity of an obstacle course set up around the children's area after hours.

The annual **Geektastic** celebration of fandoms included a family friendly storytime and crafts, swordplay demos, a live podcast, trivia, a superhero themed CoLaboratory, and a Stranger Things Escape room.

Thirteen people joined the first **Mother/Son Book Club** with Miss Melissa. The group started their book and, in keeping with the book's theme, snacked on dog biscuit cinnamon grahams and hot chocolate while making holiday light up cards.

Food STEM: CoLaboratory allowed kids and teens to play with their food as they did popcorn experiments, played piano with bananas, and made ice cream while talking about the science behind freezing and thawing.

Pippa White presented **Voices from Ellis Island** to a packed crowd for the First Friday series.

Local authors shared their work at the **5th Annual Sterling Lord Writers and Readers Festival** honoring the noted literary agent with Burlington roots.

Cake Decorating class reached full capacity. Participants learned how to decorate a simple round cake with a turkey design while practicing piping techniques.

Reaching out into the community

Amy visited all the 3rd grade classrooms at Black Hawk for the **Proud to Read Aloud** program. Together with the students, they read half of the book *Very Short Fables to Read Together*.

Becky visited **middle school classes** to share and discuss books. Library staff members also visited the **afterschool programs** to take literacy and STEM activities.

Continuously improving

Lois and Rhonda attended the online Connections Summit sponsored by SirsiDynix to learn about software improvements. The online conference also featured sessions on a variety of more general library topics.

The annual staff training day was filled with peer teaching as nearly all staff members were able to share, discuss, and learn together to improve service to our community.

The parking lot lights were converted to LED for energy savings. As a bonus, the light quality is also improved. With the completion of this project, all lights in and outside the library have been changed out to higher efficiency. This work has allowed the library to mitigate the increased rates.

The FY19 annual report was designed by Joseph, our talented graphic design staffer. In addition to presenting it to the council at a work session, copies were mailed out with the Library Foundation's annual appeal letter.



Offering anywhere, anytime access

The online library branch includes access to Foundation Directory Online, a database of resources for any organization seeking grant funding. This resource is made available at no cost to all Iowa public libraries thanks to the State Library of Iowa.

Looking Ahead

We are looking forward to our next Family Night in January, which will be the return of the popular Stuffed Animal Sleepover.

Registration for the Friends of the Library Trivia Night Fundraiser on January 10 is now open.

November 2019 By the Numbers

Visitors

0 1 3 3 8 3



422

Meeting Room
Reservations

<p>82 Laptop Checkouts</p>	<p>2,328 Wi-Fi sessions</p>
<p>5,192 Database Uses</p>	<p>4,288 computer logins</p>

Classes and Events

Adults 9

Youth 98



Participants

Adults 597

Youth 1959

Nonprint Items

Borrowed

Adults 11,142

Youth 1,531



69

New Borrower
Accounts Opened

Books & Magazines



Borrowed

Adults 8,562

Teens 667

Tweens 388

Children 6,445

Downloads

Books 997

Music 796

Audio 886

Magazines 306

Videos 104