

City of Salem

Salem Public Library

February 14th, 2024

5:00p.m. at the Salem Public Library Collaboration Studio and via the
Salem Public Library YouTube Channel

Si necesita ayuda para comprender esta información, por favor llame
503-588-6178

PARTICIPANTS

Board Members

Francine Boullosa; Gretchen Coppedge; Sarah Bishop; David Levy, Interim
Chair; Valerie Harris; Matthew Jobson; Dana Castano; Kelly Rath

Staff

Bridget Esqueda, Interim City Librarian; Clarissa Maciel-Garibay, Staff
Assistant

AGENDA

1. Welcome and call to order
2. Approval of Minutes
3. Public Comment - Appearance of persons wishing to address the
Board on any matter other than those which appear on this Agenda
4. Information Items
 - Teen Advisory Board (TAB) update
 - Chair's report
 - City Librarian's report
 - Friends of SPL report
 - SPL Foundation report
5. Discussion Items
 - Elections (Bridget)
 - Library Funding (Dana)
 - Friends and Foundation Collaboration (Dana)
6. Action Items
7. Miscellaneous Board Items
8. Adjourn

Next Meeting: March 13th, 2024

This meeting is being conducted hybrid at the at the Salem Public Library 585

Liberty St. SE, Salem, OR 97301 and online on [YouTube](#). Please submit written comments on agenda items, or pre-register to provide Public Comment on items not on the agenda, by 5 p.m. or earlier one day prior to the day of the meeting at spladmin@cityofsalem.net

Special accommodations are available, upon request, for persons with disabilities or those needing sign language interpretation, or languages other than English. To request accommodations or services, please call 503-540-2371 (TTD/TTY 503-588-6439) at least two business days in advance.

It is the City of Salem's policy to assure that no person shall be discriminated against on the grounds of race, religion, color, sex, marital status, familial status, national origin, age, mental or physical disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, and source of income, as provided by Salem Revised Code 97. The City of Salem also fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and related statutes and regulations, in all programs and activities.

January 2024 City Librarian's Report

Stats

Number of visitors

- Main: 25,199
- WS Branch: 1,276

Active cardholders: 39,249

Meeting/Study Room Reservations: 492

Reference/Directional Assistance: 3,759

Number of physical items checked out/renewals

- Main: 103,690
- WS Branch: 1,135

Number of digital items checked out

- cloudLibrary: 7,178
- Overdrive: 27,615

Library Value Calculator

<https://ilovelibraries.org/what-libraries-do/calculator/>

Staff News

Karen Kenzie, Circulation Supervisor with 22 years of service to the library retired in January. She helped her team and the library successfully navigate the many enhancements and evolutions to library technology related to material handling.

Customer Service/Circulation Supervisor interviews took place in January and the field has been narrowed to two candidates. An offer will be extended in February.

The City Librarian position was posted internally. The interviews for the two candidates will take place in February and many stakeholders will be included in the process, including the library support boards, city leadership and staff.

Our College Intern Taylor, who is fluent in American Sign Language, helped a customer seek the resources they needed by putting her skills to use. We are so grateful to have Taylor part of the team to help us communicate with our Deaf community. Soon the library will have a Translation Cart with video capabilities in order to fill this need.

Collections

The Spanish collection has a new display to highlight different themes each month. The new display now also holds Spanish audiobooks, music, and movies. This will make it much easier for Spanish speakers to find the complete collection in one place.

Projects and Programs

Best Books of 2023 reached over 120 people during three live programs. Starting in November, three staff members collected patron, staff, and critics' picks for the best book of the year. The long list was eventually whittled down to the 100 best books of 2023. Those 100 books can be found in a beautiful brochure made available to the community at the first 60 books in 60 minutes presentation. Staff members wrote blurbs to highlight 60 books for a live book talk presentation. This program was held at the library and then taken on the road to perform at Center 50 Plus and Capital Manor. The reach of this special program continues with brochures being taken daily and a display of all the books on this year's lists.

Cloud Library Best Books 2023

January was the first month for the new Programs for Accessible Learning (PAL) event. This program is focused on providing adults with disabilities an opportunity to learn and engage in a comfortable environment. PAL starts with a sensory storytime- including dimmed lights and color lamps, stretching, dancing, songs, puppets, and a book), and leads into a themed activity. The topic for January was 'music' and attendees enjoyed listening to the book, "This Jazz Man" by Karen Ehrhardt and getting to engage with fun musical instruments from the Youth Services collection.

January had two Spotlight Storytelling events, focusing on Police storytellers, and Indigenous storytellers. On January 9th, three Salem PD officers came and read stories in Russian, Spanish, and English and followed up with an exciting viewing of a squad car. Attendees enjoyed an opportunity to hear stories in different languages and get to speak to officers 1:1.

On January 6, we had Ester Stutzman of the Kalapuya and Coos tribes come with her daughters Shannon and Eden to share their cultural stories. Esther performed tales that are rooted in the local tribal history and heritage and her daughters played the drums and sang. Patrons were deeply grateful for the opportunity to hear these stories and learn more about the Kalapuya language and cultural revitalization efforts.

There were eight Tech Help appointments in January. What's Tech Help? It's a service where you can schedule a 30-minute session with a library staff member for help with eBooks, online library tools, learning how to use the library's meeting room technology, and more! Signups for Tech Help appointments are here:

<https://form.cityofsalem.net/s3/Library-Tech-Help-Appointment-Request>

Youth Services staff delivered mittens, scarves, and hats to Salem Housing Authority, and dropped off a R.E.A.D. While You Wait Tiny Library tote along with it.

Youth Services staff visited 244 first graders at 4 elementary schools with the R.E.A.D. 1st Grade Bookmobile. This outreach is done in partnership with the Assistance League of Salem-Keizer and Salem-Keizer School District.

Youth Services staff provided 4 group visits to 93 elementary grade students and 53 adults. Staff provided library tours, storytimes, and library scavenger hunts to help kids get comfortable using the library and its resources.

Youth Services staff had a lively Early Readers book Club with 11 participants in grades K - 2 and their caregivers. The group read Owl and Penguin by Vikram Madan together and made owl and penguin themed crafts to promote literacy and community.

The library hosted Mariah Rocker from Oregon Black Pioneers to present about Oregon's Civil Rights years in conjunction with the exhibit SPL has hosted since late fall called Racing to Change about the same topic. Nearly every seat was filled; participants were eager for information and asked excellent questions. One family of color even came from Albany with their four children, from baby to upper-school-age kids! Participants stayed after to engage with Mariah and thank her for presenting this topic at the library.

Gary Westford, the artist whose paintings were featured in the Art Hallway gallery through the winter, gave an artist's talk that was well attended. Participants were engaged and interested in hearing about his artistic journey, and this event was better attended than anticipated. An extra seat was needed, though attendance stayed within room capacity.

Teen Create and Connect saw some new participants in January, which was exciting! Several male-presenting teens of color participated in making buttons after an invite from the Teen Librarian during the event, which drew them from the Teen Scene floor into the Teen Scene Room. After completing projects with Create and Connect, the teens then stayed in the Teen Scene to play chess and hang out.

Teen Crochet and Slay drew in a grandma and her granddaughter from Willamina who saw information about this event and decided to come participate despite the drive to get here. They were eager for fiber arts-related activities for teens, as they have limited resources at home to pursue this shared hobby and were curious about this teen hangout.

What we are Looking Forward to!

Salem Reads 2024: One Book, One Community has begun! Everyone is invited to explore the themes of *The Inheritance of Orquídea Divina* by Zoraida Córdova through this month-long series of events, activities and displays. Salem Reads is a project of the [Salem Public Library Foundation](#).

In an exciting turn of events, we were contacted by author Zoraida Córdova with a last-minute interest in being a part of this great annual event. She had previously been on deadline and was unable to commit to an author visit, but has graciously agreed to talk with Salem readers via Zoom at 11 a.m. Tuesday, February 20.

The complete list of events is available here: <https://bit.ly/SalemReads2024>

Planning is also underway for late spring and summer events, including everything associated with the annual Summer Reading Challenge for children, teens, and adults that kicks off in June. Our programmer planners gathered for a Programming and Outreach Summit and worked together to assess our many, many ideas for engaging the community, shaping our plans for the next five months to fit our capacity.

Strategic Plan Updates

The Sustainably Serve our Community strategic plan team has collected all their data and have moved into the stress test phase of their action plan. This stage encompasses running every single task, job duty, and program against 12 questions. This process is to help determine what tasks, job duties, and programs are needed and/or sustainable. The goal is to use this information to create library tiers, with the bottom tier acting as a baseline that determines what is necessary for the library doors to open.

The Library Leadership Team conducted a workload and stress survey to determine how the new changes of hours are affecting staff and for feedback on the current schedule. Library staff were encouraged to suggest any changes they recommended and see how supported they felt. There was an option to remain anonymous as well. This survey is part of the “Strengthening our Organizational Culture and Operations” imperative to help with staff retention and improve staff engagement.