New & Noteworthy



Howl-o-ween!

On October 31, families can stop by the library for an afternoon of Halloween fun with crafts, games, and activties. Free books will be provided for children to take home after the program.



Young Entrepreneur Program Returns

Starting November 1, local high school students can register for the Young Entrepreneur Program and learn how to turn an innovative idea into a viable business.

Program Highlights











An Evening with James McBride

On October 8, 230 community members joined us for An Evening with James McBride. During his morning talk and evening presentation, James shared his writing journey and highlighted the importance and impact of libraries in communities.







Community Job Fair Fosters Connection

On September 15, 117 community members connected with over twenty employers and career coaches. Participating organizations included Parkland College, Christie Clinic, and the City of Champaign.

Douglass Branch



Friday Night Jam Sessions

At September's Jam session, 14 community members attended and shared their talent through music and spoken word.

Makerspace Usage

During September, 7 community members utilized the Makerspace during the two drop-in session scheduled that month.

Book Giveaways

Staff gave out 34 children's books in the month of September to add to their growing home libraries.

DIY Kids

During the month of September, 43 kids attended DIY Kids. Creative projects this month included making slime and crafting with invisible ink.

Weekly Storytimes

In September, 169 community members attended the various storytimes offered weekly including Baby, Toddler, Pajama Storytime, and Mother Goose on the Loose.

Club Fred

Last month, 42 kids attended Club Fred across 11 sessions, particpating in a variety of games and activities.

Customer Comments

Small Moments, Lasting Impact

After library staff helped a customer find a book, the customer asked if there was a way to set up a recurring monthly donation to the library. They shared that the library has always been a safe and welcoming space for them. They wanted to contribute, even in a small way, to help ensure that other patrons can experience that same sense of safety and comfort when they visit the library.

Career Help Yields New Opportunities

A customer followed up after receieving one-on-one support through Career Services, sharing, "I'm writing to share the good news that I have been working full-time! I truly appreciate your support with my interview preparation, resume review, and mock interview sessions. Your guidance was invaluable."

Dynamic Programming

A customer who attends Tuesdays at Ten shared their appreciation, saying, "Thank you for sponsoring events like this. This is one of the many great things this library does."

Meaningful Projects in The Studio

A customer expressed their gratitude after staff helped them create a sign for their daughter's wedding using one of the Cricut machine in The Studio.