

**Palo Alto City Library
November 2017 Report
Monique leConge Ziesenhenné, Library Director**

*The Palo Alto City Library staff plan and implement many diverse and exciting programs for the community throughout the year. In this report I like to highlight a few of our recent noteworthy events and activities. If you would like more detailed information about any of our programs, please contact me via phone at **650.329.2403** or by e-mail at **Monique.leconge@cityofpaloalto.org**.*

November 2017 Circulation Statistics

Checkout			Self-Check			Total Circulation			Visitor Count			Holds		
2017	2016	2015	2017	2016	2015	2017	2016	2015	2017	2016	2015	2017	2016	2015
75,372	79,332	79,870	87.37%	87.07%	86.67%	117,465	116,446	116,783	76,873	85,526	68,865	16,881	15,377	14,830

November 2017 Circulation Statistics

Branch	Checkouts	Self-Check	Total Circulation	Visitor Counts	Holds
Children's	12,636	84.84%	19,672	6,992	351
College Terrace	3,762	86.04%	5,738	4,583	16
Downtown	4,257	85.81%	6,339	6,440	55
Mitchell Park	42,705	90.27%	67,068	38,128	438
Rinconada	12,012	80.71%	18,648	20,730	135
Totals	75,372	87.37%	117,465	76,873	16,881 <small>(includes online)</small>

November 2017 Event Statistics

	Programs					Attendance					Outreach		Volunteers
	ADULT	TEEN	PRE-SCHOOL	SCHOOL AGE	TOTAL	ADULT	TEEN	PRE-SCHOOL	SCHOOL AGE	TOTAL	# OF EVENTS	ATTENDEES	TOTAL HOURS
2017	69	34	65	9	177	638	345	3604	217	4804	3	81	208
2016	45	38	62	16	161	1935	489	3088	400	5912	5	86	303
2015	22	23	45	11	101	216	448	1855	320	2839	--	--	225

Literacy & Learning Events

Children's Events:

- November 15: Senior Librarian, Liz Stewart presented the monthly Society of Bookworms program, as a guest presenter along with regular presenter, Senior Librarian Deborah Anthonyson. The book club discussed the book Liz had chosen, *Everything on a Waffle*, by Polly Horvath. The book club also enjoyed waffles with all sorts of toppings.
- November 22: Librarian Melissa Morwood presented an Afternoon Adventure program at Mitchell Park called "Big Robot Build-Along." Parents and children, 55 total attendees, watched the movie *Big Hero 6* and worked together to create robots out of shoe boxes, cardboard tubes, and a variety of other supplies. "The kids got very creative, and it was fun to watch the parents get excited about helping their kids build the robot.": Senior Librarian, Melissa



Teen Events:

- November 16: Librarian Christine Pennington hosted the Teen Writing Club. She had a great turnout and was happy to welcome some new as well as old returning members. Librarian Liz donated a selection of teen reads that she got from a library conference to the group, and the teens were excited to select a book to take with them. Half the group worked on their NanoWriMo project while the other half worked on poetry for the Thanksgiving holiday.
- November 2: Teen Librarian, Gina Feil, along with TLAB, created mini golf holes for International Games Day at the Teen Center. Twenty seven teens played video games, board games, Twister, ate snacks, and watched the movie *Jungle Book* on a projector.
- November 21: Librarian Maggie Lai and intern Doris Chen hosted a Teen Maker Tuesday program at Mitchell Park. 13 teens made holiday cards using LED lights and copper tape." Teens said the project was difficult yet it was still fun and rewarding!": Librarian, Maggie



Adult Events:

- November 1-30: Senior Librarian, Alison de Geus, hosted a "Come Write In" space for National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo) participants at Mitchell Park Library. A room was prepared with coffee, tea and snacks for novel writers to come in and have a quiet, WIFI and power equipped space to just WRITE. The program welcomed 22 writers over the duration of the month-long program, many of whom expressed their appreciation for the space. One participant shared that she had written the most she'd ever written at one sitting when she used our space. Supervising Librarian, Valeh Dabiri Alaee, helped set-up these events in the evening and weekend hours.
- November 28: Senior Librarian, Rebecca Kohn, conducted the Bucket List Book Club discussion on Elena Ferrante's novel *My Brilliant Friend*. 5 adults attended the discussion. In January the Bucket List Book Club will be discussing J.M. Coetzee's *Life and Times of Michael K*.

Civic Engagement Events

Children's Events:

- November 21: Librarian, Gina Feil, delivered donation boxes to all library branch locations for this year's Toy Drive for all ages. This is the first year where we have included all 5 branches as drop off sites.
- November: Thankful Tree "Chelsey built the tree and Nikki cut out the leaves and we all encouraged patrons to add a leaf to our 'thankful tree.' I posted pictures of it to Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and also included it in the Kids Place newsletter, asking people to come add to it. Eventually, the leaves outgrew the original tree and then outgrew the extra branches!" Librarian, Kathy Swatz



Teen Events:

- November 28: Gina Feil hired a new volunteer for the Game On program. Johnny came back to Palo Alto to volunteer for the library after graduating from high school. Johnny used to be a student at JLS and visit Mitchell Park Library.



Adult Events:

- November 30: Alison, along with Christine, RuthAnn Garcia and Dave Sigua, presented Harry Potter Quizzitch Trivia Night at Rinconada Library. The program brought in 40 attendees who engaged in a lively and enjoyable competition to answer Harry Potter trivia questions. These trivia events are among our most popular programs, particularly for adults, and we're eager to put more together (photo below).



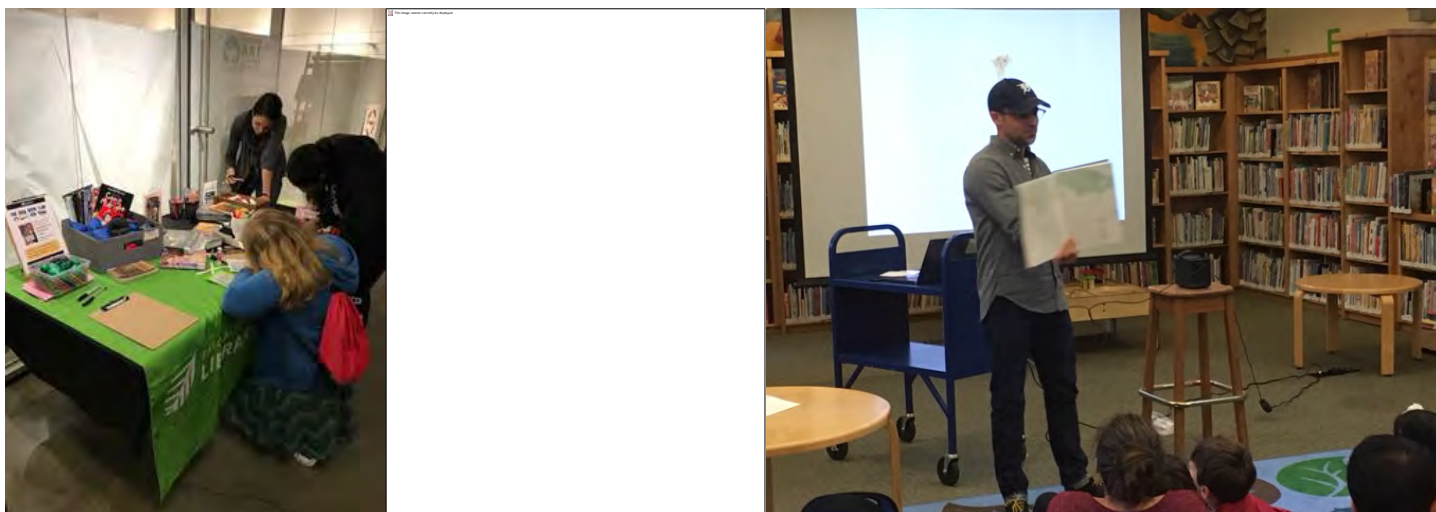
Community Partnerships

Youth Services:

- November 3: The Library was excited to be a part of the Art Center's Teen Takeover night. At this event, 30+ Teens get to see the Art center's latest exhibit and make crafts, listen to music, and hang out after hours. Youth Services Librarian Christine was there with a black out poetry craft that both the teens and the art center staff

enjoyed doing! “Everyone was a little scared about ripping pages from our old withdrawn books, but as they got into the activity they were soon ripping and tossing pages all over the place!”: Librarian, Christine

- November 3: Librarian Melissa Morwood partnered with Books Inc. Palo Alto to bring author Philip Stead to Children’s Library. Philip spoke about and read from his new book, and Books Inc. provided copies of the book for sale and signing. Since this event was advertised by both PACL and Books Inc., some people attended who don’t normally attend library events. It was a good opportunity to show a different segment of the community what we offer at the library.



Staff News & Trainings

Youth Services:

- November 2: Librarian Melissa Morwood viewed a webinar presented by the Association for Library Service to Children about employee engagement. It provided some helpful information on how to train, motivate, and support library staff.
- November 30: Librarian Kathy Swartz viewed a Summer Reading Program Webinar from Library Journal.

Upcoming PACL Events

Youth Services:

- December 1-January 8: Senior Librarian, Liz Stewart, is overseeing the 2018 Writing Contest. Submissions are accepted through January 8th. This year’s writing prompt is ‘You discover your parents are spies...’ Students in grades 3-12 are invited to address the prompt in 500 words or less. Judging will take place in early January, and the winner will be announced at a reception whose date is to be determined.
- Youth Services Librarian Christine is starting a Teen Movie Night every other month at the Rinconada Library as well as a Queers and Allies Hangout time on the last Friday of every month, both starting in December.
- On Saturday, December 9, Librarian Melissa Morwood will host the first session of a new series: Family Film Festival. On the second Saturday of each month, families are invited to watch a children’s film in the Midtown Room at Mitchell Park Library. This month we will be watching Pixar’s *Toy Story*.
- December 7: Librarian Kathy Swartz will host an author event with JoAnne Stewart Wetzel – she will be doing a Writing Workshop to go along with the writing contest.

Adult Services:

- December 9: Alison is looking forward to presenting California Listens: Digital Stories Premiere at Rinconada Library. This program will premiere the digital stories recorded in June 2017 of eight Palo Alto residents who attended the California Listens storytelling workshop. The storytellers will be in attendance to share about the stories they recorded, and to share about their workshop experiences.