Popular Upcoming Programs at Minneapolis Central Library

**Start-up and Small Business Advice Offered at Entrepreneur Expo**

This Central Library event is an excellent resource for any business owner as well as those who dream of starting one, especially women, people of color and immigrants. The Expo will take place on October 2nd from 2:00 pm to 8:30 pm on the second-floor bridge. The Expo features workshops and panels, opportunities for networking and many exhibitors with business and development expertise. You will find inspiration and support, methods to build your skills, and strategies for obtaining financing with some panels in Somali or Spanish.

Individual consultations are available as well as free professional headshots for use in your marketing. A light dinner will be provided. More information, registration and the schedule for the event can be found at [hclib.org](http://hclib.org) under Events and Minneapolis Central or call 612-543-5669.

**Family History Fair 2019 Saturday, Oct 26th**

Searching for family members to fill in your family tree or curious about how to remove a barrier to tracing your family’s past? The 10th Annual Family History Fair has a plethora of resources to aid in your research or motivate a beginning search. Held from 9:00 am to 3:15 pm on the second-floor bridge, this year’s Fair features experienced speakers, a wealth of exhibitors who can assist with your genealogy questions as well as topical workshops. The keynote address is by Paula Stuart-Warren on “The Ever-Changing World of Genealogy”. Other presentations include: Finding Female Ancestors, Using Library Resources, Using Family Search, Historical Fort Snelling and more. Exhibitors are local Genealogy and History groups. This is a great opportunity to learn more about Mpls Central Library’s extensive genealogy resources by joining a tour to locate dedicated laptops with free access to Ancestry Library Edition along with scheduled volunteers’ assistance. The event is presented in collaboration with the MN Genealogical Society. Friends of MCL help prepare for and volunteer at this event.

**Volunteers Needed!**

Join with the Friends of MCL Board members in volunteering at the Family History Fair on Saturday October 26th on shifts occurring between 9:00 am and 3:15 pm at Minneapolis Central Library. We also need assistance with collating hand-out materials during the week prior to the event. This is a great learning opportunity and a chance to meet other Friends of MCL.

We also need a volunteer photographer for occasional up-coming events including the Family History Fair. The photos will be used for future articles in the LINK.

Email [minneapoliscentral@supportthclib.org](mailto:minneapoliscentral@supportthclib.org) if you are interested. Thank you!
The Library Bike in Action and Open for Business

Kelly Wavrin and Hallie Bowman are two of the Librarian Bikers who display this mobile showcase with its stock of books and informational pamphlets. A local craftsperson created the metal flip-top which definitely sparks joy. Lunchtime Nicollet mall walkers start a conversation with “Wow! What’s this?”, allowing librarians to increase awareness of our beautiful library. Those who can’t pause often call out “I love the library!”

Check it out this fall at Thursday Farmers’ Markets and Tuesday Makers’ Markets on Nicollet Mall. Look for this retro curvy trailer between 11:00am and 1:00pm. Elizabeth Cole is pictured taking the bike for a spin in front of Minneapolis Central Library.

Friends of MCL Connect with Downtown Neighborhoods During Summer Events

The Friends of MCL closed out an active summer at neighborhood events. They received a gratifying response from pop-up booth visitors of all ages. Community outreach, as a goal of the Friends of MCL, is an opportunity to engage with community members and provide information on events and services; and to offer new library cards or a book. Booths were set up at Mill City Farmers’ Market, Franklin Steele Park and the Pride Festival in Loring Park. Visitors often tried a spin of the wheel to answer library trivia questions and win a book. Volunteers were rewarded with stories of happy childhood hours spent among the books and expressions of delight about their library.

Friends’ volunteers also helped out at Cardigan Donuts in the downtown skyway, at #207, 40 S 7th Street, where librarians set up a book display and offered library cards to attendees of the Story time for children. (Donut holes included!) This event will continue on first Saturdays of the month this fall. More information can be found at Cardigan Donuts on Instagram.

Be sure to visit the Friends of MCL booths at next summer’s events!

Did You Know???

➢ Construction continues on the former Nicollet Hotel block directly across 3rd street from the Library. There is a riveting view from the Library’s fourth floor windows looking down into the construction area which should hold the attention of all kids and those who are fascinated by bulldozers and cranes. The 37 floor RBC Gateway project is expected to include a Four Seasons Hotel, office space and retail stores.

➢ Valerie Griep, the Friends’ Social Media Coordinator, posts on Library events regularly on NextDoor. While she posts to neighborhoods close to downtown, it would be helpful in the future to broaden her reach to nearby Minneapolis neighborhoods. If you are interested in re-posting her information on events and services to your neighborhood, please contact Valerie at minneapoliscentral@supportclib.org
Adult Craft Club News

The extremely popular adult Craft Club program at Minneapolis Central is now in year two and is continuing to grow and expand. Craft Club meets every Monday from 10:30-12. Craft Club was initially supported by a Seed Grant and funds from the Minneapolis Central Library Friends group, and currently has funding from a 2019/2020 Legacy Grant. We also accept donations of crafting materials at any time to increase our ability to meet patron needs. This program brings 30-40 people weekly consisting of both returning and new participants. Craft Club challenges people to learn new skills and explore their creativity through projects in sewing, knitting, crochet, embroidery and needlework, beading and jewelry making and paper crafts. Starting this fall, Craft Club has begun also including workshops on a variety of topics to expose people to new crafting ideas and use donated materials in new ways. A strong community has formed both in the program, with patrons assisting one another with projects, as well as online through a new private Facebook Group where patrons can share projects with one another and learn about library resources and programs. The wonderful community that Craft Club has created includes a diverse group of people from a variety of backgrounds. Many crafters have shared that this library program has positively impacted their lives by teaching them new skills, removing barriers, and connecting them to a new community. Craft Club is also supported by a group of volunteers with a variety of skills. -Mirra Neiman

Craft Club Needs

If you are interested in volunteering with this program, please contact Mirra Neiman at mneiman2@hclib.org or stop by the program any week and talk to the library staff. If you would like to donate to the library, the following items are the most used and needed:

- Fabric and sewing supplies
- Knitting and crochet tools and yarn
- Beading supplies
- Paper craft materials
- Embroidery floss and materials

These items can be dropped off for Mirra at the first-floor information desk or please email her to make other arrangements.

A Deep Dive into the World of New Board Member Angela Anderson

The next time you see Angela Anderson, ask her about the time she helicoptered over the Gulf of Mexico, surveying the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. Or how as a commercial dive student in Southern California she was the only woman in her team and the only person over 30. Or how she learned to scuba dive in France specifically because she was afraid to go under water. Add to that experience a year spent teaching in China, a stint as a Minnesota lobbyist, and time on staff at the Bakken Museum. Angela has seen a lot of the world, and now she helps others enter new worlds through real estate.

As a kid, Angela was drawn to the library because it was a safe space and a perpetual source of learning. These days she surrounds herself with books, magazines, and newspapers. Angela loves the Central Library because of the ways it is constantly changing to meet the needs of the community. She is eager to use the marketing skills she has honed as a real estate agent to help spread the word about the library and its programs. “As member of the Friends Board I wonder ‘what are the ways that we can reach more people?’ That’s what I’m always thinking about as a real estate agent. So much of my work is marketing in a way that feels authentic, offering something that benefits the people I’m trying to reach.” Angela’s favorite part of the library is the stacks. In our digital age she feels like we are losing the physical substance of media. She likes that “there’s a physical space where stuff is being preserved. As we move toward an online existence, I value this sense of history and the kind of weird old books that only get looked at once a year or so.” -Sarah Tittle
Magnet Program holds a strong attraction for seniors

When downtown Minneapolis' Skyway Senior Center closed in 2017, the city lost a valuable drop-in center for its over-fifty population. A plea from one of the clients led the Westminster Presbyterian Church to open its doors two days a week with programing and support for the city's seniors. The Minneapolis Central Library soon followed suit, and the Magnet Program was born. It now operates four days a week for free. On Mondays and Wednesdays folks gather at Central, on Tuesdays and Thursdays the program is housed at Westminster. Friday programming—open to anyone—consists of a weekly film. There is no admission cost.

"It's going like gangbusters," says Ray Lockman, Service Manager at MCL who cites a good mix of people, some from downtown and some from much farther away. Some have been coming for years, others have found the program just by wandering through the library's doors. The offerings serve a smorgasbord of interests, from crafts and chair yoga to board games and healthy eating. A history club, hosted by a staff of librarians, meets weekly to share information and insights. There are monthly birthday celebrations, opportunities to go on-line, and many of the seniors, introduced at the Skyway Center, have formed lasting relationships. When regular attendees don't show up, people notice. Attendees share information on free events and trips, providing a useful source of activities. That's a valuable gift for a population that is all-too-often lonely and disconnected.

Lockman hopes that the program will help reduce the disparities among the senior population, many of whom are facing the same challenges as those experiencing homelessness—struggles with health, lack of housing and isolation. The Magnet Program offers valuable information about where folks can turn for help. But it's also one of the few places in the city where people can walk in, grab a snack, and feel not just comfortable but welcome. Whether they're arguing about whether the 1990s constitutes "history," or gently stretching their muscles in one of the library's large meeting rooms, the Magnet program offers seniors a daily dose of company and conversation. Listing the wide array of activities, services and special events on the Magnet's busy calendar, Lockman smiles. "Sometimes, it's just about the newspaper and a cup of coffee." -Sarah Tittle

Summer 2019 in the MCL Children's Library

Summer in the children's department started off with a win! Our Pride display was voted on by the public at the Pride festival as the best Library Pride display!

Inside the library we had our usual busy summer and provided programs to help students engage in enriching experiences that help prevent the summer slack. We provided drop in craft and nature programs, encouraged kids to read and share with us what they are reading and rewarded them with a free book. We continued our successful Connect and Play program for our younger patrons and caregivers to promote early literacy skills and working together. Bunny Besties came to the library and kids were able to learn about, interact with, and read to a bunny! As always, we provide a daily meal to ensure the families have what they need to thrive.

Outside the library, staff were busy performing outside storytimes at the Cancer Survivors Park downtown (always interesting with all the construction) and setting up a Pop-up Library at Luxton Park where the community and school age program participants could engage with library staff, attend a storytime, be creative, and check out books! The Pop-Up libraries help remove barriers by bringing the experience of the library directly to where community members gather. -Joyce Linman, Librarian