

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

March 21, 2024

Strategic Plan

Our Mission:

We are "The People's University," the center of learning for a diverse and inclusive community.

Our Strategic Priorities:

1. Closing the Gaps
2. Activate The People's University
3. Create Campuses
4. Operating with Excellence

PUBLIC SERVICES

MAIN LIBRARY MONTHLY REPORT

PROGRAMS AND EXHIBITS

Photography Club

Sr. Director of Public Services Robin Wood in partnership with Director of Arts and Culture Tiffany Graham Charkosky have been hosting a Photography Club at Main Library. Patrons are invited to join the free club meetings every other Wednesday to photograph "behind the scenes" areas of the library. Participation in the club has grown from 10 participants at the first meeting to over 30 at the 2nd meeting. As a bonus, participants have been posting their photographs on social media drawing attention to CPL and its collections.

Chinese Language Programs

International Sr. Librarian Caroline Han hosted a *Learning Chinese through Culture* session on February 10 with instructor Hong Zenisek. She also hosted the program *Chinese Basic Conversation* on February 10.

Book Clubs

International Department Librarian Victoria Kabo hosted the bi-monthly Russian Book Club at the Memorial Nottingham Branch on February 10.

Literature/Ohio Center for the Book Public Service Associate Michael Credico hosted a *Books in translation* discussion at Clevo Books on *The Gospel According to the New World* by Maryse Condé on February 1.

Genealogy Clinic

Center for Local and Global History Department Librarian Terry Metter coordinated hosted a Genealogy Clinic in partnership with volunteers from the African American Genealogical Society of Cleveland (AAGS) on February 10. Five volunteers from AAGS assisted 15 patrons with their genealogical research.

Music at Main

Fine Arts and Special Collections Music Librarian Andy Kaplan hosted the February 3 Music at Main concert which featured The Theron Brown Group with 140+ people attending.

Writers Unplugged

Popular Department Manager Jen Jumba hosted local writer Susan Petrone for Writers Unplugged at the South Campus on February 7.

Wedding Day DIY

General Research Collections Manager Sarah Dobransky hosted a Wedding Day DIY program at the Harvard-Lee and Fulton branches in February teaching patrons and staff how to make bouquets, boutonnières, and other floral arrangements for any wedding or formal event.

Main Library Displays

Center for Local and Global History Public Services Associate Aimee LePelley created a display combining President's Day and Valentine's Day featuring famous romances throughout history, Public Services Associate Kristin Galewood created a book display on the 50 states and U.S. territories, and Map Collection Librarian Lisa Sanchez created a book display centered on Black cities, suburbs, and mobility in the United States.

Popular Department Librarian Grace French and Popular Department Manager Jen Jumba created a Blind Date with a Book display, many patrons took notice of the display, some took pictures, and a few brave souls even checked a few out!

COLLABORATIONS

General Research Collections Manager Sarah Dobransky taught the Intellectual Property Venture Clinic (IPVC) students at Case

Western Reserve University (CWRU) Law School advanced patent and trademark searching for Professor Marian Ianiro.

Science and Technology Department Public Service Associate Tarra McSears, Subject Librarian Jorge Arganza, and General Research Collections Manager Sarah Dobransky hosted a teachers' day at Lakeshore for Cleveland Metropolitan School District (CMSD). The Library is partnering with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, CWRU, the City of Cleveland, and CMSD to develop a high school science project centered on measuring air pollution using EPA and CWRU provided air particulate sensors.

PATRON SERVICES

Lending

Passports Processed 2/1/2024 - 2/15/2024	Photos Taken	Revenue Collected
34	17	\$1,360

Main Library Lending processed 1,103 holds and reviewed and processed over 500eCard registrations as of February 13. In addition, they received 83 Overdrive/LIBBY Online Virtual Instant Card account records for processing.

School/Class Visits:

Special Collections Librarian Ray Rozman hosted a tour for visitors from the Zeta Tau Alpha Sorority and friends on January 24, invited to the library by Ms. Melissa Carr of the Archives Department. The Zeta sisters were especially interested in seeing the library's manuscript materials, and Mr. Rozman selected five different manuscripts to show along with other collection highlights. Nine people were in attendance.

A group of CSU students led by Professor Greg Soltis toured the Special Collections, Fine Arts, Photographs, and Maps Departments on January 27. Twenty students were in attendance. Notice of the tour was received on the evening of January 25, and preparations began on January 26, mainly coordinated by Special Collections Librarian Raymond Rozman and CLGH Manager Olivia Hoge.

Center for Local and Global History Manager Olivia Hoge and Archivist Melissa Carr attended Hawkin School of Mastery's final presentation on research using CPL Archives on February 7. Six teams of students were tasked with finding untold stories about the library using primary source materials from the Archives.

The Center for Local & Global History assisted a class of 37 students and three adults from Beaumont High School on February 12. Public Services Associate Aimee LePelley pulled books on topics the students were researching, and Library Assistant Subject Department Adam Jaenke and Center for Local & Global History Manager Olivia Hoge assisted the students with research and questions. Literature/Ohio Center for the Book Manager Don Boozer presented on research strategies and library resource. The Lending Department also assisted by issuing new Library cards to the students.

The Center for Local & Global History Librarian Mark Tidrick assisted TechCentral with a tour with 25 Shaker Middle School students on February 20.

Map Collection Librarian Lisa Sanchez and Manager Oliva Hoge attended an Urban Affairs class at Cleveland State University to present on map resources at the Library on February 27. The class engaged in a project based on CPL Branches and using maps.

	# of Groups	# of Participants
Main Library Scheduled Patron Tours (non-school groups)	4	28
New Employee Tours	1	7
Main Library School Group Tours (non-Youth Services)	3	82

Patron Photo Shoots:

Photo Shoot Sessions	# of Participants	Donations Accepted
58	320	\$2,885.00

LibChat Main Library On-Line Reference

Time Period	Chats Answered by Main Library Staff
01/20/2024 - 02/20/2024	159

Book by Mail Programs

Words on Wheels: The Shelf department sent 8 packages/13 items to Cleveland Public Library patrons through the Words on Wheels program as of February 15, 2024.

Homebound: Homebound Services, staffed by the Literature Department staff, sent out 101 packages to fill 94 patrons' requests for materials.

OUTREACH

International Department Manager Milos Markovic attended Asia Plaza's annual Lunar New Year Celebration on February 10. Over 500 free Cleveland READS books were distributed to visitors in addition to CPL Program Guides, CPL themed giveaways, event flyers and related promotional materials. Over 1,000 guests stopped by the CPL table.

International Department Manager Milos Markovic attended the opening ceremony of Cuyahoga County's new Welcome Center located at 4261 Fulton Parkway on February 14 with OPS Community Outreach Manager Isabelle Rew. Over 100 Afghani newcomers were in attendance to become acquainted with CPL services among other social service agencies.

Popular Department Librarian Grace French and Popular Department Manager Jen Jumba visited the Kelvin Smith Library at Case Western Reserve University to add new books to the Cleveland Public Library *Leisure Collection* on February 9.

COLLECTION MANAGEMENT

Popular Department Manager Jen Jumba is currently weeding the Non-Fiction audiobooks with the goal of removing outdated information and ordering new audiobooks to fill holes in the Business and Health subjects. Popular Librarian Grace French began weeding and shifting the Television Collection.

Popular Library Assistant Ricardo Jackson has completed a third of the "ENTERTAINMENT" DVD reclassification project. The goal is to make DVD browsing more accessible for both staff and patrons. Popular Clerk Benjie C. Smith assisted Popular Department Library Assistant Ricardo Jackson on labeling DVD's and entering labels for DVD's into the computer.

Photograph Collection Librarian Brian Meggitt processed and interfiled 141 photographs for the Portrait & Biography Collection. Mr. Meggitt continued to work on the East Side Daily News acquisition. He pre-processed 337 photographs, weeded 147 items, and set aside 12 items for the History Department. He created 47 records in Contend for the Cleveland 20/20 Project

Collection. Public Service Associate Aimee LePelley added 22 entries and 144 items to the Map Collection Deaccession list.

Center for Local and Global Services Associate Kristin Galewood inventoried 800 photos in the Cleveland City Hall Collection large format photographs. She confirmed and updated 365 records in the Park Plans Excel document for the Map Collection and she scanned institutional information from Cleveland City Directories from 1926 to 1931.

Map Collection Librarian Lisa Sanchez made an inventory of the oversized rolled maps previously housed on LSW9. As part of the Facilities Master Plan, the maps will be moved to preservation cubbies on LSW 7. Mx. Sanchez gave the maps a subject and included links to their digital surrogates on the Digital Gallery. Mx. Sanchez, with the help of Catalog Department, has added 30 maps to Sirsi.

Center for Local and Global History Library Assistant Adam Jaenke digitized 128 items from the Cleveland Picture Collection.

After approximately eight months, Business, Economics and Labor Senior Subject Librarian Sandra Witmer finished weeding the Science and Technology department's Green Environmental Resource Center collection. The books are being dispersed into the Science & Technology main collection according to their call numbers.

MAIN LIBRARY RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

- Special Collections Librarians Stacie Brisker and Ray Rozman along with Library Assistant Bill Chase gave an extended presentation of Special Collections to a visiting delegation from the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture on January 25. The group was interested in seeing the collection's material relating to African American history and hearing about the Library's outreach to African American community in our service area. The three librarians pulled numerous materials from the Newbell Niles Pucket Collection, the Leslie Adams Collection, the Charles W. Chesnutt Collection, and other materials.

- Popular Department Manager Jen Jumba and Popular Library Assistant April Lancaster pulled four articles from Rolling Stone for a customer at Jefferson.
- Popular Department Librarian Grace French assisted a patron in finding The Euclid Observer articles from 1965 to 1968.
- Center for Local and Global History Librarian Mark Tidrick found photos for a story about the scrapping of Cleveland's Huletts on [WKSU](#).
- Center for Local and Global History Public Services Associate Aimee LePelley assisted a patron who is writing a book. Ms. LePelley scanned lists of delicatessens from City Directories from 1924-1930.
- Center for Local and Global History Photograph Collection Librarian Brian Meggitt and Library Assistant Adam Jaenke assisted an architect with finding and obtaining images of 900 Literary Road in the Tremont neighborhood.
- Center for Local and Global History Photograph Collection Librarian Brian Meggitt assisted patron Christine Kufahl with locating and obtaining historical images of 2905 Franklin Boulevard in the Ohio City neighborhood.
- Center for Local and Global History Public Services Associate Kristin Galewood scanned blueprints of the Cuyahoga River area for a patron.
- Center for Local and Global History Map Collection Lisa Sanchez found maps for a patron researching the Ohio Erie Canal and its locks. Mx. Sanchez also pulled plat books of the Clark-Fulton neighborhood for a property researcher.
- Center for Local and Global History Librarian Terry Metter used Ancestry Library Edition, Plain Dealer Historical, Digitized Hopkins Atlases, and Cleveland City Directories to assist a family with researching an ancestor who was an Italian immigrant and a founder of a successful produce company in the early 20th century in Cleveland.

- Center for Local and Global History Library Assistant Adam Jaenke assisted a patron with finding articles for a patron about a family member who was shot by the police in the 1930s. The family member was part of the local communist party, and the police officer was not wearing their uniform.
- Center for Local and Global History Library Assistant Adam Jaenke used the Call and Post and the Plain Dealer Historical database to find articles about a walk-out by vendors at the Woodland-E55 market in 1946. The patron did not know exactly when it happened or why, and Mr. Jaenke was able to find that out with these articles.
- Shelf Department Page Michelle Collins finished putting in order Quarter books located on the 7th floor.
- Fine Arts and Special Collections Public Services Associate Kalie Boshara showcased a few of the Sobota books to two visitors from American Greetings on February 14. Ms. Boshara also researched available titles for patron doing research on Dana Schultz.
- Fine Arts and Special Collections Library Assistant Bill Chase assisted a patron from Trinity Cathedral looking for a set of plates for an upcoming renovation to the windows. He was told that the plates had been scanned and are in the Digital Library. The patron was also directed to Fine Arts for circulating items relating to the Cathedral.
- Business, Economics, and Labor Librarian Susan Mullee requested the book *Cleveland Stock Exchange Records, 1900-1949* for a patron researching Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company. Cleveland Public Library is one of two libraries in the world with this title.
- Business Department Librarian Zachary Hay assisted a researcher from Austria by providing scans from the McCall Corporation's 1937 book *Traffic Flow and Shopping Habits*. CPL is among only three libraries in the world holding this title.

- Business, Economics, and Labor Public Services Associate Christine Feczkanin assisted a Canadian patron with information on the Corrigan - McKinney Steel Company. The patron made a special visit to the Main Library for resources from the Business, Economics and Labor Department, Photograph Collection, and Center for Local and Global History.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT

Fine Arts and Special Collections Public Services Associate Kalie Boshara attended the NEO-RLS webinar *So You Want to be a Manager*. Ms. Boshara also attended the NEO-RLS webinar *Leading Through Transitions* on February 14.

Lending Department Clerk Claire Jennings attended the NEO-RLS online training *Addressing Micro Aggressions*.

Shelf Assistant Manager Antoinette Allen started the Gale Course, *Intermediate Excel*.

Shelf Assistant Manager Cynthia Coccaro attended an NEO-RLS webinar titled *Using Excel for Employee Accountability* on February 15.

Center for Local and Global History Librarian Terry Metter attended the RootsTech virtual conference on February 29.

Center for Local and Global History Map Librarian Lisa Sanchez attended the Leap into MAGIRT! virtual conference on February 29.

Center for Local and Global History Librarian, Terry Metter and CLGH Manager Olivia Hoge attended the *Can Libraries Be Everything to Everyone?* discussion at the City Club of Cleveland on February 14.

Government Documents Library Assistant Alea Lytle completed *Active Listening: The Secret to Effective Communication* and *Improving Your Listening Skills* from LinkedIn Learning.

Business, Economics, and Labor Librarian Susan Mullee watched the New York Times video *There's a Tax Season Villain, and It's Not the IRS*.

OTHER

Cleveland Scene published an article featuring personal ads found in digitized issues of the Scene on the CPL Digital Gallery. CLGH and CDPL staff digitized the Scene from CLGH microfilm in 2018.

Center for Local and Global History Subject Librarian Terry Metter worked with Marketing Coordinator Brooke Hodge and Photojournalist Chloe Magill from Spectrum News 1 on a news segment highlighting CLGH programs and collections related to Black History Month and African American Genealogy.

Government Documents Library Assistant Alea Lytle, Social Science and PAL Manager Steve Capuozzo, and International Languages Public Services Associate Lisa Held represented the library's Rainbow Readers ERG at the Plexus's ERG Council meeting, hosted by OverDrive.

Business, Economics, and Labor Librarians Susan Mullee and Zachary Hay, Science and Technology Librarian Jorge Arganza, and General Research Collections Manager Sarah Dobransky continue to serve on the Workforce Development taskforce.

CLEVELAND DIGITAL PUBLIC LIBRARY

Programs & Exhibits

Staff participated in professional groups and Main Library meetings. Staff monitored environmental conditions in exhibits and facilities, showed off the specialized "Archive" display on the touch wall in the space, and prepared appropriate exhibit supports for displays in Main Library display cases. Working with Special Projects and Arts and Culture, staff assisted moving, preserving, storing, framing, and installing art works. CDPL met with the new staff from Arts and Culture to provide an overview of the current state of art management at CPL.

Public Service Statistics

ClevDPL had 248 in-person visitors during February. Staff had 12 two-hour scanning appointments. From February 1 to February 29, Google Analytics (GA) reports 10,289 sessions for 7,070 users and 136,053 page-views. Search engines delivered 57% of sessions. Searching in CONTENTdm accounted for 18% of sessions. Referrals were 17% of sessions. 4% of sessions came through social media (about the same as last month). About 4% of sessions were unassigned. 56% of users accessed our site using desktop computers, and 44% accessed CONTENTdm through mobile

devices (3% tablets and 41% mobile). Phone use is increasing. Google Cultural Institutes, where CPL has curated online collections of WPA prints, photographs, portraits, and other cultural heritage materials, had 349 page views for 144 users.

Outreach

Community partners' work in February continued. ClevDPL reached out to the Ukrainian Museum and Archive and collaborated on a cemetery project involving the city and citizen archivists. The team reviewed and prepped scores of original issues of *habitat*, a Cleveland real-estate newspaper. ClevDPL had items from family collections scanned. Several local artists scanned their works. Staff have scanning projects emerging with local photographers and performing artists. Staff met with representatives of the Cleveland Grays to develop a scanning project related to Cleveland Cemeteries.

Collection Development

As of February, there were 753 images scanned, 651 were post-processed and QA'd, and 1599 images were uploaded, many of which were included in multi-image pdfs. Metadata was pulled or enhanced for all uploaded records. The web archives continue to document 44 unique Cleveland and NE Ohio organizations. Scanning highlights include continuing scanning local newspapers, uploading Cleveland Orchestra scrapbooks, and scanning sheet music. Staff continued work uploading *Hi-Gear* Magazine and *habitat*, both local journals documenting unique, diverse communities in Cleveland. The team processed microfilm images of the East India Company documents and uploaded documents sent by PAL.

ILL

Statistics from OCLC are one month behind and cover January. Staff had 51 requests from CPL users for materials from other libraries. The response time averaged 16 days and 12.5 hours. Partner libraries made 800 requests through OCLC to borrow from CPL. CPL staff managed a response time for books of 4 days and 7 hours. We again had ILL requests from incarcerated persons and general researchers using ALA forms.

Staff Development

Staff reviewed post processing procedures with staff. Staff offered training in a pilot program with Google Arts and Culture to staff from Literature and the Center for Local and Global History.

Preservation

As of February 29, preservation/conservation accepted 40 items, returned 79 items, and printed 10 labels. The team did 27 complex repairs and one simple repairs on codex books. Currently the pres-con team is down to half strength due to a staff member's retirement. The team continued uploading materials for an inventory of artwork in the library system. Working with the new arts director, the team continued planning reinstalls and moves of artwork. Additionally, the team continued enhancing navigation for a staff only interface to a digital art management collection in CONTENTdm and will be adding members from Arts and Culture.

Planning Activities

Staff are planning to share and/or hand off responsibility for art moves and storage of art to the Arts and Culture team. Staff are developing and planning programming for fall of next year.

OHIO LIBRARY FOR THE BLIND AND PRINT DISABLED

Activities

For February 2024, the circulation and BARD statistics were not ready to be included in this report when it was due.

OLBPD and Human Resources posted a job description to hire a recording studio coordinator to oversee the production of audio reading materials of local interest. Interviews are expected to take place in March. Audio book and magazine titles produced will be added to OLBPD's collection and made available nationally in BARD, the Braille and Audio Reading Download service, offered by OLBPD and the National Library Service (NLS) to its patrons.

OLBPD purchased Amazon Echo Dot and Pop smart speakers in anticipation of the National Library Service's 2024 release of its "My Talking Books" Alexa skill. The NLS "My Talking Books" skill allows Alexa to understand voice commands specific to searching, downloading, and streaming NLS audio books and magazines directly to Alexa enabled smart speakers and connected devices. NLS expects to open a preview of their "My Talking Books" Alexa skill to network libraries by the end of summer, and possibly a patron release as early as September.

NLS announced plans to transition the role of circulating magazines on cartridge from producers to network libraries. Once this goes into effect, Ohio patrons will receive their magazines on cartridges directly from OLBPD, and they will be bundled

together with their talking books. By bundling books and magazines, it helps OLBDP maximize our inventory of cartridges without having to limit the numbers available to patrons. OLBDP expects to assume adding magazines to its duplication-on-demand routines later this year.

OLBDP ordered new promotional items to distribute at consumer events, informational fairs, and outreach events attended by patrons and potential patrons to help raise awareness about this service.

The OLBDP adult book club met remotely on February 8 to discuss *Honor* by Thirty Umrigar.

ARCHIVES

Visits to the Library

On Saturday, February 23, renowned geologist and former CPL librarian Joseph T. Hannibal, Ph.D., brought 20 of his students from his geology class at the University of Akron to the Library on a field trip. The students - Undergraduate Geology and Environmental Science students, plus two Graduate students - spent the day in Main Library drawing sections of the building stones that feature fossils. In the morning, each student made a detailed pencil drawing of their assigned site and the fossils found within it in the John G. White Reading Room. The students were equipped with magnifying lenses and rulers to do their work, and their drawings included scales and blow-up sketches of corallites, bryozoans, and other types of fossils, along with detailed notes about their findings. After lunch, half of the students went to Brett Hall to sketch their assigned spots (one on the limestone columns, and one on the travertine floor). The other half of the group sketched a section of stone in the Literature Department on the second floor. The majority of the students were from outside of Cleveland and had not been to Main Library before. Photographs of the students and their work were taken for the Archives.

Physical Space

On Tuesday, February 27, installation of the section of high-density mobile shelving devoted to storage for the Archives was completed. This area is located in the southeast corner of the eighth floor of the Louis Stokes Wing, and all shelving has been set for quarto size or larger, which will accommodate the standard manuscript boxes that are used to house much of the Library's institutional records; a total of 1,972 linear are available. In the Director's Report in the March 16, 2023, Board

minutes, Archivist Melissa Carr estimated that due to severe space limitations, over 400 linear feet of archival material is housed not on standard library shelving in the Archives but on book trucks, atop file cabinets, and in other temporary locations. This additional shelving on the eighth floor will enable the Archives to properly house its growing collection and ensure that plenty of space is available for collections research and processing.

Collaborations & Partnerships

On Wednesday, February 7, the partnership between the Archives and the Mastery School of Hawken culminated in the students' final presentations at their school in University Circle. The students - primarily high school sophomores - made their third and final visit to the Library on Friday, February 2, when they examined additional materials from the Archives and gained further hands-on experience working with primary source material. (The students, enrolled in a course called Art, Society & Culture taught by Mastery School teacher Ailey Picasso, previously worked with material from the Archives during their second visit to the Library on Friday, January 26.) The students were divided into six teams, each with four students, and within each team, the students created a unique plan for the Library to use its institutional Archives to commemorate its upcoming 155th anniversary. The students presented their work, and they answered questions from Olivia Hoge, Manager of the Center for Local & Global History, and Ms. Carr, both of whom were invited to attend. Ms. Picasso shared the students' final reports with the Archives, and a recording of the presentations is available on YouTube.

ARTS & CULTURE

The Archive by Rebecca Louise Law continues to be a draw. The project installation will be extended through July 2024. On Wednesday, February 7 and Wednesday, February 21, CPL hosted a total of over 50 photographers to Main Library and Louis Stokes Wing for "CPL Photo Club." Senior Director of Public Services Robin Wood assisted in the planning and staffing for these well-received programs.

On Friday, February 9, CPL conducted a site visit with Friends With You, an artist collective who is developing a proposal for the next installation in Brett Hall.

On Wednesday, February 14, Marissa Tiroly joined the team in the Office of Arts and Culture as Manager of Arts and Culture.

Local photographer Kenyatta Crisp took portraits of visitors to Brett Hall on Saturday, February 3, and CPL provided digital copies of these images to patrons.

Director Tiffany Graham Charkosky met with Amani Olu of Olu & Company, Writers in Residence, continues to develop the artworks funded by the Art for Justice Fund, MOCA Cleveland, Bonfoey Gallery, and LAND studio.

YOUTH & FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Family Engagement

0 to 3 Read to Me

The 0 to 3: Read to Me is an early literacy program package made possible by a grant from the Bruening Foundation. Staff from 11 library locations received Every Child Ready to Read and early literacy training conducted by Ohio Ready to Read trainers from Stark County Library. Jacqueline Lamb, Director of Youth and Family Engagement and Sandy Nosse, Family Engagement Specialist also provided additional training around early literacy and guidance regarding Play Spaces, Playdate Story Times and special programming provided through this grant. Three staff observed Ms. Nosse conducting a Playdate at Carnegie West to gain added support.

Branches providing programming through this grant are Carnegie West, Harvard Lee, Jefferson, Lorain, Rice, Sterling, Union, West Park, and Woodland. Playdate programs highlight the essential early literacy practices of reading, singing, playing, and talking. All branches received 10 Early Literacy Book Bags to promote early literacy and 0 to 3: Read to Me Programming to expectant families or families with young children. The bag holds two board books, early literacy information and a set of baby keys to support early literacy in the home. Also included are community resources to support parents in their early childhood journey.

FamilySpace

The Family Advisory Committee this month had their final Participatory Evaluation training session, and the evaluations were piloted to families visiting FamilySpace at Carnegie West and Hough. The families surveyed appreciated having a place to play with their young children and friendly staff. Moving forward, the Family Advisory Committee is designed to guide programming to meet the families interests and needs.

FamilySpace continues to be enjoyed by families at both Hough and Carnegie West. Efforts such outreach to community organizations are being made to attract new families. This month, staff held a "Saturday Special" program featuring mini horses from Tender Touch Equine. They talked about how their miniature horses bring comfort and healing. A staff member from Bright Beginnings was also there to promote their health and wellness services for young children and their families. Families also enjoyed playing in FamilySpace and lunch.

Young Scholars Academy

Young Scholars' Academy Beginner and Transitional Programs

Winter 2024 Young Scholars' Academy (YSA) Program: Beginner ages 3-4 and Transitional 4-6 (entering Kindergarten Fall 2024). The Young Scholars' Academy is a kindergarten readiness program for scholars and their parent(s) or other adult family members. Transitional lessons are based on the Ohio Department of Education Standards for Kindergarten. This two-generational program includes a performance agreement with a Lead Model Mentor PK-3 teacher from CMSD (Cleveland Municipal School District) referred to as our Parent Partner. The lessons are engaging for scholars while providing parents with researched-based information that support learning opportunities at home. The 10-week, in-person fall sessions are held at the following library branches: Woodland, Lorain, and Union. Regular participation of five families for Beginner and 11 families for Transitional.

YSA Winter Programming Session kicked off with a great start on January 23, 2024. In February staff have consistently seen dads taking the initiative to bring their scholar to the Beginner program. YSA Beginner lessons included Every Child Ready to Read early literacy skills. The scholars are learning new vocabulary and cooperation skills.

Transitional: The facilitator and Parent Partner shared tools around school readiness, specific to Soc/Emo self-management, writing and spelling simple word strategies and school routines. Parents were given books, writing materials, and information about the practice and process of each skill.

Youth Services

The Youth Services Department at Cleveland Public Library had a busy month in February due to the hard work of its staff. The department organized a virtual Youth Services meeting, which Youth Services Manager Annisha Jeffries and Director of Youth and

Family Engagement Jacqueline Lamb led. During this meeting, staff members shared insights and collaborated to enhance services for young patrons. In addition, the department welcomed a new Children's Librarian, Katherine Jackson, and a Kent State MLIS (Master of Library and Information Science) intern, Ava Semaan. Staff also met with the Cleveland READS 2024 committee. The theme is: Celebrating our ABC's: Authenticity, Bravery and Creativity.

The Youth Services Department is excited to host the 2024 Norman A. Sugarman Children's Biography Awards at the Main Library on Wednesday, September 18, 2024. This event will recognize authors who have contributed exceptionally to children's literature, specifically in the biography genre. The ceremony will celebrate literary excellence and promote educational and engaging content for children.

Senior Subject Department Librarian Lan Gao made significant contributions by leading a tour for 80 8th grade students from Barberton School, finding critical areas for collection weeding, and translating the Cleveland READS Chinese flyer. Public Service Associate Te'ier Langford enriched the library's programming with creative and educational initiatives, while Children's Librarian Maria Lopez provided captivating experiences for young patrons.

Unfortunately, the department also had to say goodbye to Public Service Associate Emily Bollin, who left after conducting a memorable tour for 37 10th grade students from Beaumont School.

BRANCH NARRATIVES

D1 Eastman - The My Digital Life Series by TechCentral started on Saturdays. Librarian Cassandra Feliciano presented a Chinese New Year Paper Lantern program for youth. Feliciano hosted a LittleBits open play session where youth created exciting and unique electronic circuits. Public Services Associate Katy Flores kicked off Eastman's first book club since before the pandemic. Feliciano attended the NEO-RLS Teen Summer Reading Program event.

D1 Lorain - Librarian Andrea Csia and Library Assistant Todd Fagan provided in-branch preschool Story Times to Shining Stars daycare and other families in the community. Fagan and Csia also provided outreach Story Times to Stockyard Elementary, Marion Seltzer, Halle school, Willard Headstart and Cleverbee Academy. The campus also hosted several programs: Create with Paint, Creating Valentine's Day Cards for loved ones, Virtual Rockband Makerlab and 0-3 PlayDates, and staff hosted Young Scholar's

Academy. Csia attended Halle School's Take Care Fair by Cleveland Playhouse.

D1 Rockport - Library Assistant William Petrucz hosted two sessions of Chess Club. Public Services Associate Kyra Berzonsky set up a craft table for adults to create Valetine's Day related art during the Fall in Love Art program. Manager Luigi Russo attended the 1st District Police-Community Relations meeting. In partnership with MyCom, the branch will be a Resource Closet site, offering cleaning products to teenagers.

D1 Best Buy Teen Tech Center (BBTTC) - The space hosted four DesignIS workshops with Jacinda Walker from DesignExplorr. Staff provided a community day in which members were encouraged to participate in cooperative games and activities. Staff held a sublimated mug workshop where participants used the sublimation printer to decorate a mug and then used the mug to enjoy hot chocolate.

D1 West Park - West Park's weekly AARP Tax Aide program kicked off this month, with 40 patrons receiving assistance. Patrons created amazing depictions of the historic Euclid Beach Park fountain and learned about CLGH resources at our Paint Cleveland History program. Librarian Tracie Forfia conducted 20 Story Times at 10 schools including Discovery Point, Newton D. Baker, and Al Ihsan, in addition to hosting visits from Care-a-Lot Childcare and the YMCA and holding two 0-3 Read to Me Story Times. Youth staff signed up 50 children for the branch's 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten Initiative. The February take-home Story Time kit was based on *Guess How Much I Love You* by Sam McBratney.

D2 Brooklyn (Closed for FMP) - Materials and supplies were moved from Lakeshore to the branch. Staff returned and were trained in the new service model and security. Staff shelved materials and prepared the campus for opening day.

D2 Carnegie West - Three third grade classes from Urban Community School visited for STEM programming. Outreach to Cleveland's McCafferty Health Center began with an adapted Story Time by Librarian Helen Zaluckyj to non-English speaking families. Joseph M. Gallagher's (CMSD) after-school program learned about the Lunar New Year via craft and storytelling. RTA Careers and Conversations had 23 job seekers. Manager Angela Guinther attended an Ohio City Dialogues meeting at Providence House East and the City Club forum on public libraries.

D2 Fulton - Fulton hosted ESOL classes in partnership with USCRI. Occupational therapists assisted in acclimating immigrant and refugee children to living in the states. Librarian Beverly Austin began serving on the Summer Lit League committee. Public Services Associate Rosa Simone visited Metro-Catholic-Boniface School, Clark Elementary, and Daisy daycare to conduct Story Times.

D2 Jefferson - In partnership with the Cleveland International Film Festival, the campus hosted a screening of three short documentaries followed by a discussion with Tyrone Owens, cousin of Jesse Owens. Using a grant from MyCom Cleveland, Jefferson hosted a program by the Shereroes of Cleveland, centering on the voices of Black women. Librarian Karen Kelly Grasso and Library Assistant Youth Alexander Story Sr. focused on African American voices and authors at Tremont Montessori, and hosted craft events for Lunar New Year, Mardi Gras, and Valentine's Day. Public Services Associate Danielle Konkoly hosted Think & Drink book club, and the Cookbook Club discussion. Grasso assisted with Glenville's groundbreaking.

D2 South Brooklyn - South Brooklyn held three yoga classes with instructor Waleska Gachuk with 10 participants. In partnership with Tech Central, a Digital Navigator assisted patrons with technology-based questions. Stagf made paper flowers at the Crafty and Cozy program for adults. Youth staff conducted outreach to schools and daycares and held Black History Jeopardy, Make a Card for a Friend, Valentine's Day Tie Dye Tees, Teen Art Appreciation, Gamer's Guild, and Build It: Box Calendar Birdhouses. Staff hosted a meeting with Director Thomas, the president of Global Cleveland, and the new Afghan Community Center leaders.

D2 South - After restarting the seed library, over 20 patrons have checked out over 100 packets. As part of the Writers Unplugged program, author Susan Petron spoke about the characters of her new book *The Musical Mozinskies* and answered questions from the 11 attendees. Thirty-three participants attended South's Excited About the Eclipse program, where they learned about the total eclipse and received giveaways and glasses to watch it on April 8, 2024. Manager Jaime Delet has finalized conversations with the Food Bank regarding bringing a fresh produce pantry to the South Campus.

D3 Garden Valley - Clerk Cristyle Frye facilitated the Walz Book/Movie Club. Public Services Generalist Daniel DeFreitas attended the Using Excel for Employee Accountability Zoom

training. Library Assistant Leonard Burks and Public Services Associate Eren Crebs conducted Story Time outreach at Rainbow Terrace Daycare and Anton Grdina Elementary. Public Services Generalist Jyrah Graves attended de-escalation training. Assistant Manager Donald Smith facilitated the Moments in Black History program with music and trivia.

D3 Hough - Hough held a series of Family Game Nights and hosted the non-fiction writing series by Literary Cleveland. Family Space featured Tender Touch Equine Therapy Mini Horses. Family Space staff held a session of play and Story Time.

D3 MLK - Librarian Angela Margerum and Manager Kimberly Hunter hosted the Black ERG's program, *The Crown: The Art of Black Hair* event. Library Assistant Eric Eubanks and Public Services Associate Bessie Coleman worked with adults at Club MLK: the weekly line dancing program. Public Services Generalist Andrea Bennett accompanied Hunter to her monthly Fenway Manor Book Club. Margerum, Eubanks, and Library Assistant Eugene Callier continued Story Times with Quincy Place, Euclid Park, Sweet Kiddles, and PNC Building Blocks preschools. Margerum and Eubanks hosted youth programs including Groovy Tuesdays (about music by Black musicians), Black History Trivia Week, and the Friendship Bracelets MakerLab.

D3 Sterling - Sterling is a new 0 to 3 Read to Me site and held our first PlayDate. Librarian Sonja McCord presented Story Time at Marion-Sterling Elementary's Kindergarten and Pre-K Special Education classrooms and Clever Bee and YWCA preschools. Public Services Associate Valerie Gee led three Grow Crystals science programs and Manager Monica Rudzinski organized a Games Day for the children. Rudzinski co-hosted with Woodland Manager Maria Estrella a book discussion and signing event at the Woodland Campus featuring Cleveland leader and author Dawn Glasco and attended the Combatting Gun Violence in America forum and public libraries forum at the City Club. Rudzinski attended the Marion-Sterling Community Partnership, Central/Goodrich-Kirtland MyCom, Cleveland Central Promise Neighborhood Advisory Council, and Third District Police Community meetings.

D3 Woodland - The Duct Tape Universe MakerLab was co-facilitated by Librarian Lanecia Smith and Public Services Associate Courtney Furcron. Smith hosted the Poetry for African American History program and participated in the NEO-RLS webinar, *Library Bootcamp: Unlocking the World of Youth Services in Public Libraries*. Furcron presented the Zine Making Fun program. Public

Services Associate Shawnte Baldwin assisted at Man Up CLE and The Crown: The Art of Black Hair events.

D4 East 131st Street - Librarian Kelli Minter led a Create Your Own Mask craft for the young scholars to celebrate Mardi Gras. Public Services Associate Kathryn Wetterstroem held a Time to Unwind crochet circle. Public Services Generalist Shirley DeYampert held Winter Bingo Gameday.

D4 Fleet - Fifty patrons utilized free tax help for low-income adults and seniors presented by CHN Housing Partners. Public Services Associate Giovonni Braden-Dorsey and Librarian Nataile Flamik hosted Black History Month Jeopardy! Braden-Dorsey and Flamik conducted Black history Story Times at schools and daycares, including Fester Brown, Laver, All Around Children, Clever Bee, Mound, and Harvard Enrichment Learning Center. The Board of Elections served 30 patrons at their voter registration table.

D4 Harvard-Lee - Staff held a two-day used book sale with proceeds going to the Foundation. Staff hosted Literary Cleveland for two fiction writing workshops, drawing over 50 attendees. In collaboration with MyCom and The Spot, staff distributed gloves and hats to 24 youth patrons. Librarian Alycia Woodman shadowed a PlayDate program at Carnegie West. Woodman and Library Assistant Kevin Moore performed a preschool Story Time at Louis Stokes Day Care with 15 children. Woodman offered a Fakemon program for youth to design a Pokemon character. Manager Kristen Schmidt and Moore hosted a Painting Palooza program with five attendees. Public Services Associate Keith McNeal assisted at Man Up CLE at Main Library. Schmidt attended the City Club forum on public libraries. USDA held an info session to connect with community gardeners. Public Services Generalist Lily Draheim and Woodman conducted flyer outreach to promote our book sale. Harvard-Lee was a sock donation location for DJ Lily Jade.

D4 Mt. Pleasant - The branch hosted two programs in partnership with Cuyahoga Reads, Coding4Kids, and Lit through Art. Coding4Kids provided 10 scholars with the opportunity to build functional robots and program them to complete specific tasks. Lit through Art explored artistic expression while increasing writing and reading for 15 scholars. Manager Shayla Boyce began working with Cleveland Leadership Center as a Civic Advisor for the Look Up to Cleveland Program.

D4 Rice - Librarian Whitney Johnson, Public Services Associate Sarah DeRosa, and Clerk Felicia File hosted a Valentine's Day Mini Bash with 40 gifts bags given to youth. Public Services Associate Dwight Fleming started presenting Story Times to Harvey Rice School. The branch said farewell to File as she returned to the Brooklyn Branch.

D4 Union- Young Scholars Academy welcomed 30 participants, including nine scholars from ages three to six, for early childhood literacy and Story Time. Library Assistant Valerie Johnson's outreach included Nathan Hale, Miles Park, Miles, and E-Prep Woodland Hills. Legal Aid assisted 27 patrons. The O-3 Read to Me program welcomed five participants. We celebrated Valentine's Day as 15 scholars created cards for family and friends, and we hosted a Black History and Community celebration with 15 patrons.

D5 Addison - Public Services Generalist Adeline Wallo attended a Neighbor Up meeting at the Cleveland Foundation. Librarian Heidi Malinoski and Public Services Generalist Shakita Miles engaged Superior Academy Pre-K, toddler, and infant classes with Black History Story Times. Public Services Generalist Reuben Jolley finalized collaboration with the City of Cleveland Air Quality Department for a Lego STEAM program.

D5 Collinwood - Youth staff Kiaira Jefferson and Emily Szymanski presented programs such as My Family's History Lapbook, Excited About the Eclipse, Take n' Make crafts, and Story Times at Keys 4 Kids, Scholars of Tomorrow, the Boys Academy, and East Clark preschools. Staff submitted program highlights to the *Collinwood Observer*. Manager Peak met with community partners to plan the upcoming Wellness and Wealth program. Collinwood said farewell to Public Services Associate Isabelle Del Turco. Szymanski will replace Del Turco as the True2U mentor at East Clark School.

D5 Glenville (Closed for FMP) - Glenville's groundbreaking celebration featured the Footprint Band, and speeches by Director Thomas, Councilman Kevin Conwell, Councilwoman Yvonne Conwell, Mandel Foundation President Steve Hoffman, and Manager Peter J Roth. Over 100 community members attended in support. Librarian Maggie Lawrence provided weekly Story Times at Wade Early Learning Center and the WIC office at J. Glen Smith Health Center. Public Services Associate Sarah DeRosa provided weekly Story Times at Murtis Taylor Daycare. DeRosa began a weekly zine-making workshop at Glenville High. Roth held a Valentine's origami program with retirees at Morning Star Tower, attended the public libraries forum at the City Club, and toured the

Akron Field Station, headquarters for the Nature Inspiration Academy.

D5 Langston Hughes - Librarian Christopher Busta-Peck presented Story Times at Stonebrook Montessori and Wilson Elementary Schools. Programs offered were Happy Birthday Langston Hughes, with a performance by Councilman Kevin Conwell's jazz band, and African American Artists in Cleveland: Printmaking. RTA offered a Careers and Conversation workshop. Public Services Associate Evan Kern created a video titled The Langston Hughes Land of Learning Project.

D5 Memorial-Nottingham - Staff offered programs to celebrate Black History Month, including African American movies from the '90s, the African American Artists Spotlight, the Black History Film Series, and the Last Teen Standing for youth. Author Shardae Webb performed a Pop-Up Story Time with preschoolers to celebrate Black Children's Book Week. A Crocheting programming series with instructor Becky Mitchell began for strivers and seniors. Staff from TechCentral conducted the Digital Navigator program. Public Services Generalist Michael Fillinger attended the Waterloo Merchants meeting and conducted Paint and Sip. Benton and Dunn-Childress assisted with the Black ERG's The Crown event at MLK Branch. Manager Pasha Moncrief Robinson attended the Glenville groundbreaking and the public libraries forum at the City Club.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION

During the month of February, the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Department engaged in and/or championed the following, as CPL strives toward operating with excellence:

- Planned, prepared and executed with CPL's Black ERG, CPL's Black History Month celebration - The Crown, The Art of Black Hair.
- Conducted monthly Sulski Assessment team meeting. Exploring wayfinding options (high-tech and low-tech options) for Main and Louis Stokes Wing.
- Partnered and participated in Tri-C Women's Summit Committee Meeting in preparation for Tri-C's annual Women's Day conference.
- Planned and prepared for Women's History Month with Talk on Tuesdays (TOT) ERG. On Friday, March 1, 2024, CPL officially began supplying free menstrual hygiene products at all its

campuses, including Main and Louis Stokes Wing. TOT ERG also planned Women's History Month inspired Lunch and Learn presentations for staff during the month of March.

- Met with leadership from Lutheran Metropolitan Ministries to discuss workforce development opportunities in support of CPL's strategic plan.
- Met with Director of DEI Diara Polk of Hilti Corporation to explore best DEI practices among large organizations.
- Attended CLC Way Forward Leader Lunch Break: Emily Campbell, Center for Community Solutions.
- Participated in CPL leadership discussion related to Greater Cleveland Partnership collaboration.
- Attended team meeting to discuss interpreting services for CPL patrons.
- Coordinated CPL leadership supplier diversity discussion for the month of March.
- Met with CPL's Marketing department and web designer 10UP to discuss DEI components of CPL's new website.
- Met with panel participants to discuss conference plans and presentation at this year's American Library Association (ALA) conference.
- Held team meeting to discuss CPL's interest in hosting a National Urban Fellow (NUF).
- Planned with Rainbow Readers ERG a collaboration with MyComm and the LGBTQ Center, for a spring photography program for high school students.
- Attended City Club Event - Can Libraries Be Everything to Everyone.
- Conducted Cultural Diversity ERG planning meeting to discuss EID celebration at Eastman in April and Asian Festival participation in May.
- Discussion with CPL HR about supporting and/or having a presence at various career fairs to support diversifying our workforce recruitment efforts.
- Meeting with Outreach and Programming to discuss programming, St. Patrick's Day, Asian Festival, Juneteenth, and Pride Month.

EXTERNAL RELATIONS & DEVELOPMENT AND FOUNDATION

EXTERNAL RELATIONS & ADVOCACY UPDATES:

- *Goal: Increase Elected Officials and Key External Stakeholders' Awareness and Understanding of CPL's Community Impact*

CPL DEVELOPMENT UPDATES:

- *Goal: Align fundraising to support CPL strategic plan*
 - Fundraising
 - Received grant for Data Days program.

CPL FOUNDATION UPDATES:

- *Goal: Reach Financial Targets*
 - Advance the Foundation's 2024 financial targets.
 - Hosted meetings with potential new funders
 - Developed plans for Library Giving Day on April 3

ADDITIONAL DEPARTMENT EFFORTS

- Staff mailed 2023 Giving Statements
- Staff assisted in planning and attended City Club event: *Can Libraries be Everything to Everyone?* on 2.14.24.
- Staff attended Studio 525 grand opening on 2.17.24.
- Staff attended Glenville Branch Groundbreaking on 2.3.24.
- Staff attended Branch Managers meeting to discuss new branch cart & book sales plans on 2.14.24.
- Staff presented overview of 2023 fundraising efforts and 2024 goals to staff at Townhall on 2.29.24.
- Staff attended meeting of "Circle Fundraisers", hosted by Philanthropy at University Circle Inc. on 2.22.24.

COLLECTION & TECHNICAL SERVICES

Technical Services work resumed after staff finished unpacking and were settled into their new workspaces at the Central Distribution Facility (CDF). Department operations returned to their normal levels before the end of the month.

Collection and Technical Services staff attended the monthly CPL All-Staff Town Hall meeting. Collection and Acquisitions Manager Olivia Morales and Technical Services Librarian Michael Gabe attended the "Leading Through Transitions" webinar which was

also the fifth session of the Northeast Ohio Regional Library System (NEO-RLS) 2023-2024 Leadership Academy on February 14.

Acquisitions: The Acquisitions Department received 8,376 items, 1,128 periodicals, and 73 serials; added 345 periodical items, 39 serial items, and 394 comics; and processed 563 invoices and 144 gifts.

Acquisitions Coordinator Alicia Naab continued cleaning up Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) retrieval problems with importing invoices. Several vendors were contacted when invoices were creating a backlog of errors. The re-posting of files and a password update corrected all issues, and the invoices are now importing smoothly.

Ms. Naab worked with International Languages Department Public Services Associate Lisa Held to clarify CPL's ordering policies and to instruct Ms. Held on searching for active orders in Sirsi. Ms. Held was also made aware of the process for the cancellation of titles and how to access this information. Ms. Naab and Acquisitions Librarian Leslie Pultorak collaborated with Director of Collection and Technical Services Sandy Jelar Elwell to update the address indicated on Sirsi reports and with direct vendors that were not updated when the Acquisitions Department was moved to the Central Distribution Facility (CDF).

Ms. Naab attended the OverDrive webinar "Save Time (and Sanity) with Your Digital Content Librarian" which provided Marketplace users with an introduction to the OverDrive support staff that help make their Library's accounts run effortlessly. Attendees were also made aware of many collection development resources and curation tools during this webinar.

Catalog: Staff cataloged 3,897 titles, including 488 original records and 53 upgrades, added 3,535 items, created 198 Library of Congress call numbers, completed 392 bibliographic quality control transactions, and transferred 214 titles or call numbers for Cleveland Public Library. The Department also added 2,929 titles, made 86 corrections, and performed 82 transfers for CLEVNET member libraries. Librarians handled 108 email and phone requests from Library staff and 219 requests from CLEVNET.

The Department continued to adjust to the Central Distribution Facility (CDF). Technical Services Librarian Erin Valentine set up locations for different categories of incoming and outgoing material. She also unpacked and distributed Department material

and supplies from the Lake Shore Facility to various areas at the CDF.

Technical Services Librarian Heather Gohring began checking finished extra copy and High Demand Department book trucks completed by Associates. Ms. Valentine began reviewing book trucks after training from Catalog Manager Andrea Johnson. Technical Services Librarian Jessica Williams began to assist with the cataloging responsibilities for the High Demand Department. Technical Services Librarians Celia Halkovich, Ms. Gohring, Ms. Valentine, and Technical Services Associate Marquette Brown continued to catalog High Demand material as well. Technical Services Librarian Michael Gabe re-added nearly 150 items for Government Documents and 63 items for Social Sciences.

Technical Services Librarian Barbara Satow cataloged a collection of original editorial art and a collection of newspaper proof pages from the 1910s as part of the Embedded Cataloger Project. She continues to load periodical records and add CPL holdings to folio-sized material as part of the project as well. Ms. Valentine created three original records for Special Collections Department automotive brochures as part of the Embedded Cataloger Project.

Ms. Valentine attended three Northern Ohio Technical Services Librarians (NOTSL) Board meetings where she helped plan for the NOTSL Spring General meeting and took notes in her role as NOTSL Secretary. Technical Services Librarian Jessica Williams attended two OhioNet webinars, "Library Leadership Ohio 2024 Info Session" and "Ohio Library Workers Wellbeing Wrap-up Debrief."

Collection Management: Collection Management selected 2,797 titles, 14,366 items and spent \$350,533 on materials in February.

Collection and Acquisitions Manager Olivia Morales attended the HarperCollins Publishers webinar "Library Love Fest Presents Spring/Summer 2024 Titles" and the Northeast Ohio Regional Library System (NEO-RLS) training session on "Living Well with Dementia: The Dementia Inclusive Public Library Guide."

Collection Management Librarian Laura Mommers attended the Booklist webinars "Disney Publishing Spring 2024 Preview," "Magnificent Middle Grade," and "Summer 2024 Preview with HarperCollins Children's Books."

High Demand: The High Demand Department received and added 7,494 items and processed 357 invoices.

Technical Services Librarian Libby McCuan attended a Dublin Committee Meeting.

Logistics: The Technicians unpacked and sent 5,859 new items to the Acquisitions Department and 5,360 new items to the High Demand Department.

Materials Processing: The Materials Processing staff processed 13,010 items.

OUTREACH & PROGRAMMING SERVICES

ENGAGEMENT

Heart of the Matter: On February 1st, 2024, esteemed certified trainers Stephanie Bachmann Mattei and Morris H. Ervin, Jr. led an engaging city-wide workshop titled "The Heart of the Matter: Transforming Cleveland Through Nonviolent Communication." The primary aim was to equip participants with essential tools to integrate empathy into their daily interactions. The workshop comprised two dynamic breakout sessions, culminating in an interactive Q&A segment and book signings. Approximately 40 attendees enthusiastically embraced the program's empowering content.

Man UP, CLE! On February 13th, 2024, Outreach and Programming (OPS) hosted Man UP, CLE! This local initiative by the Cleveland Public Library empowers young men to emerge as leaders and avid readers within their community. This year's event was marked by an array of activities, including insightful breakout sessions focusing on essential life skills, lunch with engaging activities, and a keynote address by renowned children's author Don Tate. Topics explored during the breakout sessions encompass entrepreneurship, social awareness, financial literacy, eSports, and leadership development. Each participant was presented with a copy of "Jerry Changed the Game! How Engineer Jerry Lawson Revolutionized Video Games Forever." Man UP, CLE! 2024 welcomed 200 scholars from eight schools.

H.U.S.H (Help Us Say Help) Screening: On February 23rd, the Cleveland Public Library proudly hosted Antwon Lindsey for a special screening of "HUSH," a documentary shedding light on Black mental health. The film's mission is to elevate

understanding and access to mental health resources within Black communities. Following the thought-provoking 76-minute screening, attendees engaged in a lively Q&A session with Antwon Lindsey and Dr. Natalie Whitlow and had the opportunity to have their copies of Lindsey's book "Since You Never Loved Me" signed. Approximately 70 patrons were in attendance, demonstrating the community's keen interest in this important topic.

Legal Aid and LegalWorks: The Union branch of the Cleveland Public Library hosted a beneficial Legal Aid event on February 10th, where around sixteen patrons had the opportunity to receive invaluable free legal counsel. LegalWorks, a commendable initiative, extends its services across multiple locations including Fulton, Mt. Pleasant, Woodland, and Memorial Nottingham. Patrons seeking assistance can find support in various legal matters, ranging from record sealing and wills to driver's license reinstatements and child support issues. This program underscores the library's commitment to ensuring all members of the community have access to essential legal support when needed.

DesignIS/Design Explorr Workshops: In February, Design Explorr conducted engaging workshops at the Rockport branch of the Cleveland Public Library. These workshops took place in four sessions, exploring various facets of design. Attendees were introduced to fundamental concepts in design, explored the problem-solving process employed by designers, and engaged in artistic prototyping activities. To enhance community involvement, CPL collaborated with local schools near the Rockport branch. Each session saw an approximate attendance of eight scholars.

The People's University - Eclipse: In a collaborative effort between OPS staff and The People's University (TPU) manager, a unique program titled "Excited About the Eclipse" was brought to life. This initiative, in partnership with the Cleveland State University's Society of Physics Students and high school students from Hathaway Brown, aimed to educate library patrons about the upcoming solar eclipse. The program was hosted across three branches: South, Sterling, and Collinwood. The enthusiastic response from the community underscores the program's success in fostering engagement and knowledge-sharing.

Afterschool Services: Art Therapy Services unveiled its Spring 2024 season on February 26th. The Art Therapy Studio now extends

to eight branches, delivering transformative art-based services centered around social and emotional learning. In a significant expansion this year, two branches will offer a more comprehensive Art Therapy program, which necessitates parental consent for participation. These branches include South Brooklyn, Collinwood, Jefferson, Sterling, Hough, and East 131. Meanwhile, Art Therapy sessions will continue to be available at the Union and West Park branches. America Reads Tutoring has resumed its vital services at CPL branches, offering invaluable academic support to scholars in need. Concurrently, the Greater Cleveland Food Bank's Kids Cafe remains steadfast in its mission, ensuring students receive nourishing meals throughout the school year at all open Cleveland Public Library locations.

OUTREACH

Outreach Efforts: Isabelle Rew, Outreach Manager, collaborated with the Cuyahoga County Office of Emergency Management and CPL Public Services Managers to set up information tables regarding emergency preparedness resources across all CPL branches throughout 2024. In a proactive initiative, there has been active engagement with the community by sharing details about library programs and services while also distributing giveaway books at a noteworthy Newcomer Event held on February 15. This event coincided with the establishment of the site as a new welcome center for immigrants and refugees in Cuyahoga County. Organized by Rise Together, CLE, and hosted by Cuyahoga Job and Family Services' Welcome Center, the Newcomer Day aimed to bridge Afghan refugees with essential community resources. Staff connected with over 75 individuals during the event and distributed 50 free books.

SATELLITE ACTIVATION

West Side Market Book Stand: Throughout February, the Cleveland Public Library stand at the West Side Market welcomed 2,273 visitors. A commendable distribution effort ensued, with 12,936 books, 35 COSI kits, and 78 Warm Up Cleveland hand-knitted goods finding their way into the hands of patrons.

Fix-It CLE Workshops: In anticipation of the upcoming Fix-It CLE workshops, OPS/TPU secured two generous toolkits valued at \$1,600 each from the Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District. These invaluable resources will play a pivotal role in facilitating the monthly Fix-It CLE workshops, projected to commence on March 16, 2024.

MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

During February, we gave Clevelanders plenty of reasons to love their local Cleveland Public Library with everything from new spaces to Black History Month programs and more. We kicked off the month on February 1 with *The Heart of the Matter*, a nonviolent communications conference lead by certified trainers. The event was part of the Writers & Readers series and meant to turn Clevelanders into better communicators, neighbors, and leaders. The Glenville Branch had its groundbreaking ceremony on Saturday, February 3. Patrons were able to say goodbye and hear about what to expect from the new Campus set to open in 2025.

On February 13, the Main Library was buzzing with activity as hundreds of young men from CMSD participated in Man Up Cleveland learning valuable soft skills to become readers and leaders. We spent Valentine's Day at the City Club of Cleveland. Director Felton Thomas was part of a panel of library leaders discussing the topic "Can Libraries Be Everything to Everyone." The panel touched on topics like challenges that libraries face, how to address the needs of their communities, and how libraries can adapt and evolve to better serve people.

Studio 525, a brand-new tech and gathering space for teens, had its grand opening on Saturday, February 17, followed by a CPL Play NBA2K tournament. We're sure you've never seen a robot cut a ribbon, but even more, you've never seen a tech space like this in a library. It is decked out with the latest tech gear including AI, gaming, and robotics.

The Library celebrated Black History Month with several programs. On Friday, February 23, the Writers & Readers series continued with a film screening of *HUSH: Help Us Say Help*. The film focuses on Black mental health. Following the screening in the Louis Stokes Wing auditorium was a panel discussion with film director Antwon Lindsey focused on the importance of mental health resources. On Thursday, February 15, the Martin Luther King, Jr. Branch held *The Crown: The Art of Black Hair*.

Tiffany Graham Charkosky and Jen Jumba were guests on Fox8's New Day Cleveland on February 28. They discussed ways that you can spring into creativity at Cleveland Public Library, including art programs with Zygote press, photography club, National Poetry Month writing workshops, and inspiring author visits.

Our marketing efforts included media releases, social media and digital (cpl.org, Off the Shelf, community calendars), and printed materials.

Library Programs & Services

***Objective:** Remain relevant by promoting programs and services to help Greater Clevelanders thrive.*

STUDIO 525 GRAND OPENING: On Saturday, February 17 Studio 525 was unveiled and followed by a CPL Play NBA2K tournament.

MEDIA COVERAGE:

<https://www.news5cleveland.com/news/local-news/cleveland-metro/new-teen-tech-hub-studio-525-opens-inside-cleveland-public-library>

<https://www.northeastohioparent.com/worth-noting/innovate-tech-space-for-teens-opens-at-cleveland-public-library/>

FACILITIES MASTER PLAN: Work on reimagined branches continues. The Glenville Campus groundbreaking was held on Saturday, February 3. The groundbreaking was extremely well attended and we were joined by several news stations. Planning for the Brooklyn Campus ribbon cutting took place.

MEDIA COVERAGE:

https://www.clevelandjewishnews.com/news/local_news/mandel-foundation-s-3-5m-gift-aids-glenville-library-renovation/article f9e95368-ce6a-11ee-b2d1-27362956aae3.html

THE HEART OF THE MATTER: NON-VIOLENT COMMUNICATIONS CONFERENCE:

February 1 with The Heart of the Matter, a nonviolent communications conference lead by certified trainers. The event was part of the Writers & Readers series and meant to turn Clevelanders into better communicators, neighbors, and leaders.

MEDIA COVERAGE:

<https://spectrumnews1.com/oh/cleveland/news/2024/02/01/nonviolent-communication-event>

MAN UP CLEVELAND: The library was jam packed with ambitious young men for the annual Man Up Cleveland event on February 13. The young men learned important soft skills and participated in

break out sessions about topics like money management, reading, esports, and more. Several news stations were on site.

MEDIA COVERAGE:

<https://www.wkyc.com/article/news/local/cleveland/man-up-cleveland-encourage-engage-educate-young-men/95-d06ea182-1313-4b3a-9879-8252091e07e1>

AUTHOR VISITS

Writers & Readers: On Friday, February 23, the Writers & Readers series continued with a film screening of *HUSH: Help Us Say Help*. The film was about Black mental health. Following the screening in the Louis Stokes Wing auditorium was a panel discussion with film director Antwon Lindsey focused on the importance of mental health resources.

MEDIA COVERAGE:

<https://www.wkyc.com/video/news/local/black-history/cleveland-public-library-empowering-community-during-black-history-month/95-88397191-f095-4797-b570-c30f5dd8afea>

Writers Unplugged: The first Writers Unplugged event of the year was Tuesday, January 9 and featured bestselling author, Christina McDonald. The discussions, hosted by Jennifer Jumba, Manager of Popular, are livestreamed to the Cleveland Public Library Facebook account, and can be watched afterwards on YouTube or listened to on Spotify, Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts, and more.

Watch: youtube.com/@ClevelandPubLib or [facebook.com/clevelandpubliclibrary/live videos](https://facebook.com/clevelandpubliclibrary/live/videos)

Listen on Spotify:

<https://open.spotify.com/show/3FuY2SSDG3k3MaKa8uih7c?si=10XmSbC4TQijATBEB9VzRg>

MEDIA COVERAGE:

<https://plainpress.blog/2024/02/04/february-2024-community-board/>
<https://www.beaconjournal.com/story/entertainment/books/2024/01/14/the-musical-mozinskis-by-susan-petrone-explores-family-dynamics-book-talk/72162077007/>

Upcoming: Jen Jumba was a guest on New Day Cleveland on February 28 and discussed an upcoming author visit from bestselling thriller author Lisa Unger.

LINK: <https://fox8.com/on-air/new-day-cleveland/more-than-a-library/>

SEE ALSO – THE ARCHIVE: Tiffany Graham Charkosky discusses an upcoming program with Zygote press in which attendees can create tote bags and posters with limited edition art inspired by The Archive exhibit.

MEDIA COVERAGE:

<https://fox8.com/on-air/new-day-cleveland/more-than-a-library/>

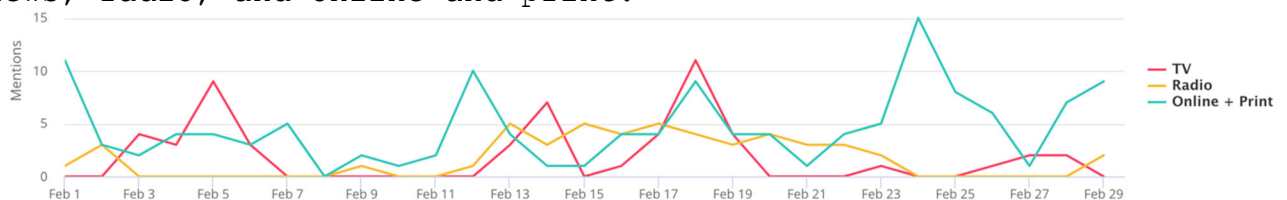
LIBRARY LOVERS: Cleveland Public Library is number 14 on a list of top cities for millennial library lovers.

MEDIA COVERAGE:

<https://livability.com/topics/where-to-live-now/7-cities-for-millennial-library-lovers/>

PUBLIC RELATIONS OVERVIEW

Cleveland Public Library garnered 238 mentions for the month of February reaching more than 31 million via national and local TV news, radio, and online and print.









Mentions 238 Audience 31,738,583 Publicity \$921,455







SOCIAL MEDIA SUMMARY


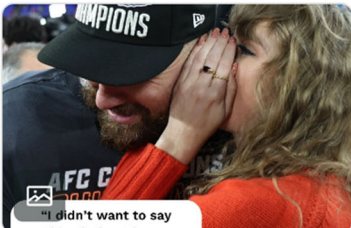




Broadcasts, production, multimedia support: Marketing continues to explore streaming opportunities, conversations, and content that promote learning and timely topics.

- **Events:** Writers Unplugged: Authors in conversation; Music at Main; Writers & Readers: Heart of the Matter and HUSH with Antwon Lindsey; Glenville groundbreaking; Man Up; The Crown
- **Projects:** Upcoming Authors promo video; Sugarman Awards; headshots
- **Podcasts:** Writers Unplugged & Page Count

Most Popular Posts by Platform:

 <p>clevelandpubliclibrary Tue 2/13/2024 10:05 am EST</p> <p>Toni Morrison (Chloe Wofford) was born in 1931 in Lorain, Ohio, and maintained lifelong ties to her Ohi...</p> 	 <p>clevelandpubliclibrary Fri 2/2/2024 10:45 am EST</p> <p>We have a pretty good idea of what @taylorswift was whispering to @killatrav. What do you think she...</p> 	 <p>clevelandpubliclibrary Thu 2/8/2024 11:00 am EST</p> <p>#TBT According to the Encyclopedia of Cleveland History, the Sherwin-Williams Co. was...</p> 
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 <p>Cleveland Public Lib... Fri 2/16/2024 9:32 am EST</p> <p>Join us for a special screening of HUSH at Main Library with author and director Antwon Lindsey! 🎬📖...</p> <p>Destigmatizing Mental Healt...</p> 	 <p>Cleveland Public Lib... Thu 2/8/2024 11:00 am EST</p> <p>#TBT According to the Encyclopedia of Cleveland History, the Sherwin-Williams Co. was...</p> 	 <p>Cleveland Public Lib... Fri 2/9/2024 6:06 pm EST</p> <p>🎮 Game On! 🇺🇸 CPL Play Tournament on Feb 17 🎮 Grand Prize: PlayStation 5 🎮</p> <p>NBA 2K 24 TOURNAMENT H...</p> 
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 <p>@Cleveland_PL Fri 2/2/2024 11:44 am EST</p> <p>We think we nailed what @taylorswift13 said to @tkelce. What are your guesses?</p> 	 <p>@Cleveland_PL Sat 2/3/2024 3:06 pm EST</p> <p>Today was the groundbreaking for the future Glenville Branch. Thank you to the Mandel Foundation for...</p> 	 <p>@Cleveland_PL Fri 2/9/2024 6:14 pm EST</p> <p>🎮 Game on! Meet Up. 🇺🇸 CPL Play Tournament, Sat, Feb 17. 🎮 Grand Prize: PlayStation 5</p> 
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SAFETY & PROTECTIVE SERVICES

Safety Services

- 2-2-23: LSW-patron experiencing a medical emergency-transported to Lutheran Hospital by EMS.
- 2-5-24: EMS to Langston Hughes-patron with a medical emergency.
- 2-5-24: Mt Pleasant-reports of a juvenile who brandished a firearm while inside the branch. Upon learning of this potential, and with the juvenile currently being off the property, the branch went on controlled entry and all relevant videos reviewed. Police were notified and responded. CPL & Royce security assisted with follow-up investigation (SIR 24-0131).
- 2-5-24: LSW-Tech Central-EMS notified for a patron experiencing a medical emergency.
- 2-6-24: LSW 2nd floor women's restroom: 2nd floor staff reported smell of burning paper. SPS investigation found some substance burning on the changing table. The substance was no longer burning, and property management notified (SIR 24-0136).
- 2-7-24: Langston Hughes-patron sought refuge at library due to allegations of threats to him and his family. CPD was notified. Patron transported to hospital (St. Vincent) by CPD.
- 2-7-24: Sterling-EMS notified regarding a patron experiencing mental health issues.
- 2-8-24: 911 was called for staff member (Helen) at C. West feeling lightheaded.
- 2-13-24: Addison-patron experiencing mental health crisis. EMS responded and transported the patient to Metro.
- 2-14-24: C. West-911 called for a male experiencing a mental health crisis.

PROTECTIVE SERVICES

Activity

Month	Total Dispatch Activity	Total Alarms	Branch Incidents	Downtown Campus Incidents	Incident Reports Gen.	CPL access activities
Feb 2024	1407	12	44	18	163	168
Jan 2024	1566	37	28	15	156	104
Dec 2023	1350	29	28	25	153	53
Nov 2023	1338	31	32	12	115	119
Oct 2023	1912	42	76	51	152	67
September 2023	1418	27	87	12	152	83
August 2023	1355	28	101	30	156	103
July 2023	1458	14	76	21	110	161
June 2023	1335	24	72	19	100	47
May 2023	1433	30	38	40	142	Sys upgrade*1396
April 2023	1359	18	73	15	91	79
March 2023	1613	27	72	31	152	47
Feb 2023	1908	26	89	12	107	65

Special Attention, Special Events, and Significant Incidents

- 2-3-24: Glenville groundbreaking; CPD contacted for assistance with VIP guest.
- 2-7-24: LSW-Burges and Burges Filming Health and Human Services
- 2-7-24: Main-Ideastream reporters interviewing patrons.
- 2-7-24: Main-CPL photography club touring the building.
- 2-13-24: LSW 10-Mayor video shoot

Protective and Fire Systems

- 2-2024: Rice exterior cameras continue to experience intermittent outages. IPS surmised the issue as being related to cabling done by CPL. We notified property management on several occasions. PM & IT have agreed to investigate the cabling to see if the system can be made operational prior to contracting it out.
- 2-5-24: CPD responded to Collinwood for an after-hours alarm. No signs of entry. The Guardian Co responded to reset the alarm.
- 2-22-24: SA Communale will be on site for hydrostatic testing

Contract Security

- 2-2-24: Forwarded to Accounting, Legal, Capitol Projects, Public Services & IT recommendation to review RFPs related to alarm monitoring contracts.

Administration

- 2-2-24: In contact with CPL legal regarding Guardian contract amendment for Rockport.
- 2-2-24: SEIU (Metter) requested SIR reports related to incident that occurred in Global History in April 2023. All documentation and police reports were forwarded to HR (Johns). Copied Legal 2-15-24.
- 2-2-24: With an eye of Guardian alarm contract expiring, Alarm monitoring recommendation sent to Accounting and Legal for review.
- 2-5-24: Glenville-facility turned over to construction company.
- 2-5-24: Channel 5 Pagonakis & Crimestoppers segment aired.
- 2-6-24: Reviewing alternative Incident reporting systems (Orangeboy & ARMS). Orangeboy is used by Columbus Library & ARMS is used by University Circle Police. We currently use Omnigo, but it costs escalate by 10% annually.
- 2-6-24: RFPs being solicited for security guard services. Allied Universal, Securitas.
- 2-14-24: Continued to provide leads to law enforcement partners regarding break-ins. Geofence cell technology revealed negative results.
- 2-15-24: Met with regional library security regarding issues of mutual concern.
- 2-20-24: SPS procedural manual completed. To be submitted to the knowledge office for publication on the CPL intranet. (published on staff intranet)

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Carpenters/Painters

- Continuing A.D.A deficiency report, still pressure testing doors.
- Glenville- removed items from branch prior to turning building over to R.L Hill.

- LSW- worked to convert old gift shop into gaming studio, color change, wall repairs, entry lock change out, and cove base.
- Brooklyn- assembled items for Brooklyn branch grand re-opening, rolling book carts and adjustable tables.
- Westpark- removed restroom tile for contractor to locate odor behind the wall.
- CDF/Woodland- installed new lockers, installed artwork over fireplace, installed 20 picture frames in the children's area, staff break room, and manager's office.
- Transported heavy benches from Brett Hall and installed out front of the Brooklyn campus. Performed touch-up painting, and painted front signage frame prior to grand re-opening.

Maintenance Mechanics

- Ionization installation on going at Memorial Nottingham.
- Yearly boiler P.M's continuing.
- Led lighting conversion continuing in Main and Rice branch.
- Boiler repairs for stacks are completed at the Lakeshore facility.
- Working with FMP to bring buildings into operation.
- Continuing to install lighting occupancy sensors in staff restrooms in Main and LSW.
- Heating circulation pump replaced at Fleet is completed.
- Plugged sewer and drain lines at Lorain campus.
- Replaced belts and pulleys on air handler unit #5 in LSW.
- Continuing branch air handler PM's.
- Working with camera repairs with SPS and in planning stage to do camera upgrades at Lakeshore.
- Working on restroom issues at FMP branches
- Replacing T-12 fluorescent lighting at Fulton, Fleet, E.131, Sterling, Memorial Nottingham, and Lakeshore. Mt. Pleasant lighting replaced with T-8 fluorescent lighting.
- Replaced VFD and freeze stat on AHU #1 at Harvard-Lee branch.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY & CLEVNET

- App Updates:
 - BCMobile (old app) was restored on March 4, 2024. We sent an email to the list of 26,000 patrons that used the app in 2022 and 2023 to notify them.

- o We have entered into an agreement with ByWater Solutions for a new online catalog (Aspen) and mobile app (LiDA). This will bring a much needed enhancement to our public catalog and app. This also prevents us from having further issues in the future with company legal disagreements. We are scheduled to go-live on October 28, 2024.
- Jamie Mason and Andy Busch presented at the Quarterly PC Tech SIG meeting online via MS Teams.
- Jamie Mason attended HR Forum Q1 meeting.
- Jamie Mason and CLEVNET hosted a table and spoke briefly at the City Club forum "Can Libraries be Everything to Everyone?" where Director Thomas was a panel member.
- Jamie Mason gave a brief presentation about CLEVNET to new staff at the CPL Staff Orientation on February 14.
- Jamie Mason, Andy Busch, Bill Hood, Darren Novak, John Malcolm and Anthony Long met on February 20 to discuss combined topics between CPL-IT and CLEVNET. We will continue to meet every other month.
- Jamie Mason met with David Fausnaugh, Director, at Oberlin Public Library on February 26 to discuss an overview of CLEVNET if they wanted to join. Further discussion will take place with the Oberlin Public Library trustees and staff. There is no official interest at this time.
- Jamie Mason met with new CLEVNET directors at Perry Public Library and Rock Creek Public Library on February 27 and Henderson Memorial Library on February 29.

Team Activities:

SOFTWARE

- Jamie Mason, Jim Benson, Megan Trifiletti, and John Pas met with representatives from SirsiDynix on February 20 and 22.

SOLUTIONS

- Completion of cross-tenant sync to the new Clevnet tenant.
- Routine Automate software update
- Critical ScreenConnect updates
- Regular upper-tier assistance and troubleshooting

HARDWARE

- The Completion of account creations, adjustments, and configurations of SMTP email relays throughout Clevnet.
- Creating Active Directory Staff Groups for the purpose of accurate Microsoft 365 license levels throughout Clevnet.
- Working on Tickets

NETWORK

- Added Morley to the Clevnet VoIP solution.
- Upgraded AP's and moved N Ridgeville to new wireless controller.
- Configured AP's for CPL new 525 studio area.
- Installed a new switch for expansion at Medina Highland.
- Installed new switches for network segmentation project at the SOCC. and removed old VoIP equipment.

Executive Panel Updates:

- Panel met February 19.
- **Specialist job description change:** Jamie shared that the MLIS requirement for the Specialist position was dropped. The MLIS requirement will be retained for the Analyst position with ILS experience strongly preferred. The updated job description was posted. The current CLEVNET

staff person in the Specialist role with an MLIS, Caitlin Ryan was promoted to Analyst.

- **LinkedIn Learning:** With the news that OPLIN will be dropping LinkedIn Learning, there is interest in investigating the cost for CLEVNET to pick it up for members. The initial quote from LinkedIn Learning is \$220,000 a year. This includes a 20% discount; however, this is the same discount that any member library would receive subscribing to LinkedIn Learning on their own. Panel suggested looking at usage to determine if it makes sense to pick up the database, as there may be widely varying usage stats across CLEVNET members. Jamie will talk with LinkedIn again to see if they could do better on price if CLEVNET wants to move forward.
- **Catalog and App:** CLEVNET and CPL staff have reached an agreement with Bywater to provide Aspen (new discovery layer) and LiDA (app). There will be training for techs and library staff in the fall. There is a target for the end of October for a go-live date but that is not set in stone at this point. The old app should be ready "any day now," according to Sirsi. CLEVNET/CPL will work on our messaging to the public about the temporary reappearance of the old app and transition to the new app.
- **Totes:** This conversation is being tabled for the time being. Priority Dispatch is not amenable to using the larger totes, due to space concerns from their drivers.
- **Strategic planning:** Jamie is working on an RFP to be released this year for strategic planning services. He has contacted Amy Pawlowski from OhioLINK and Wendy Knapp from the State Library for referrals.