

Hunterdon County Library
Director's Report
June 2014

eHCL

eHCL, the Hunterdon County Library's digital collection, continues to be popular. During May, patrons checked out 1,573 eBooks and 367 audiobooks from eHCL. The circulation limit was also raised from four checkouts to six; patrons can have four active holds at one time and may suggest for purchase up to two titles every 60 days. From DLNJ 713 eBooks were checked out 751 audiobooks circulated.

Zinio

Zinio was launched to staff on May 28 and to the public on June 2. We have already had some positive patron comments. During the first three days, 116 magazines were checked out, the top four being Country Living, Us, Eating Well and the Food Network Magazine. Of the 57 titles we have, 47 different titles have been checked out. With the Zinio platform we also have access to OneClick Digital which includes eBooks and audiobooks in the public domain. We will be adding 24 titles to the collection each quarter. Four are already available.

NoveList

NoveList Select has been added to our online catalog. This Ebsco product allows patrons to see read alikes in our catalog when they search titles. Reviews, discussion questions, plot summaries and much more will also be available through the NoveList database. The response from staff and patrons has been positive.

Bookmobile

The bookmobile was part of the Readington Buffalo Farm's annual festival that is a fundraiser for the Whitehouse Station Rescue Squad. This is the third time we have participated, and we look forward to this event each year.

HCL Outdoor Art Show

The 3rd Hunterdon County Library Outdoor Art Show, sponsored by the Friends of the Hunterdon County Library, is scheduled for Saturday, June 14 from 10:00am-3:00pm. Over 50 local artists, from students to professionals, will display their work on snow fences on the library lawn. The paintings will be for sale and prizes will be awarded

including "Best in Show." There will also be music by singer/guitarist Michael Long and children's activities.

HCL Adult Summer Reading Club

The Adult Summer Reading Club, now in its 8th year, is off to a rousing start. Just two weeks since its kickoff date, 122 club members have read a total of 125 books! The prizes have been ramped up this year, with the Friends of the Library putting together three grand prize summer-themed gift baskets, which are on prominent display at Headquarters, North County, and South County. Weekly prizes include gift cards to coffee and ice cream businesses throughout the county.

Movie Series

In its third year, the movie series is not only still popular, it is gaining new attendees all the time. Our ongoing registration list has over 360 names! Not everyone attends every film, but out of 13 shown this year, seven had wait lists. One enthusiastic patron shared with us how grateful she was to have free movie showings in her community by telling us "It's opened up a new door, thank you!"

Museum Passes

Several new museums have been added to the program along with the renewals of our more popular ones. Passes for the Zimmerli Art Museum at Rutgers University, the Museum of the City of New York, Liberty Hall Museum, and the Da Vinci Science Center are now available for check out. Passes have been renewed for the Museum of Natural History, Grounds for Sculpture, and the Intrepid Air and Space Museum. Coming soon to the program will be the Crayola Factory and Hunterdon's own Red Mill Museum. For more information on our museum pass offerings, please go to <http://www.libraryinsight.com/mpbymuseum.asp?ix=hc>

Our museum pass program is possible through the generous support of the Friends of the Hunterdon County Library.

Reference

It has been a banner month for proctoring exams for our adult distance students.

The North County Branch book discussion group is growing and voted to continue meeting all summer - no one wants a break from great reading.

The North County Branch displays from the Delaware Valley Bead Society, Artsbridge in Lambertville and the 5 East Art Gallery, demonstrate our popularity among local artists as well as patrons seeking beauty. John Dwyer's exhibit "The real Private Yankee Doodle: the life of a Continental soldier" is perfectly timed between Memorial Day and July 4th.

The reference department added "English as a Second Language (ESL)" resources to the Suggested Websites links on the Hunterdon County Library website. The information, requested by local tutors, includes local classes, Hunterdon County Library books, DVD's, and online resources.

Youth Services

It has been a busy time for the North County Branch Tweenz. In April, *Pinch Pots with Liz from Parks* was presented to the group and in May they hosted the Delaware Valley Bead Society, who presented *Parachute Cord Bracelets*.

Four more Tweenz programs: Northwest NJ Beekeepers--Meet the Bees, Drum Circles with Marie, Peaceful Positive Playful Yoga with Kim, and Slime: Playing with Polymers by The Mad Scientist, are set for Thursdays in July at North County Library.

Paws to Read presented a program at the Clinton Mill Story Telling Festival on Sunday, May 17, and has been invited to participate in Kid's Day at the Clinton Mill on July 19. Paws to Read at Headquarters and North County Branch had programs in April and May. Watch the Hunterdon County Library website for future dates.

Tweens programs at Headquarters included a program hosted the Matt Popin, park naturalist with the Hunterdon County Park System, on May 8. He did a fun, interactive program on Owls in Hunterdon County.

On Wednesday, May 14, Reference presented an EBook workshop for teens at Teen Cafe. In this interactive program, young patrons learned how to use their reading device for borrowing library books.

Librarian Karen Lewis attended a Teen Tech Week program at the Hunterdon Central High School Library.

Summer Reading Club will begin at all Youth Services locations on June 21. See our website for the growing list of programs for all ages!

It is with mixed emotions that we announce the retirement of one of our staff – Ann-Louise Taylor. She has tirelessly served the youth of Hunterdon County for the past 12-1/2 years with her phenomenal programs and her superb patron service. We are very happy for her as she moves to the next phase of her life, but we are very sad that she will no longer be a daily part of our Library. Best wishes, Ann-Louise!