

Key Monthly Library Activities – 2013

Month	February
Location	Central Library
Families and Caregivers	
1	Seventy five Children's Services Staff received training on the 2 nd edition of Every Child Ready to Read, a parent education initiative which encourages 5 parent-child activities: talking, singing, reading, writing and playing. When these activities are pursued regularly throughout the day, they ensure and encourage the development of early literacy skills and school readiness. One of the two training sessions was coincidentally on Valentine's Day and so staff were reminded of how much we love our work with children and their families and what joyous rewards we reap from this opportunity.
Youth	
1	The Central Library's teen book club meets regularly with a number of youth participants. A fun and lively discussion is had focussing mostly on the book chosen for the meeting; however, participants also talk about other books they've read that may be of interest to fellow members.
Older Adults	
1	Canadiana Reading Room staff helped facilitate a library tour for 16 very engaging older adults from the Probus Club, Mississauga Central. The group enjoyed learning the "Path of the Book" (the path of library materials from selection through acquisition, cataloguing and processing) and touring the gems of the Ruth Konrad Collection of Canadiana which included seeing the oldest book, a travelogue published in 1799: <i>Travels through the States of North America and the provinces of Upper & Lower Canada during the years 1795, 1796, and 1797.</i>
2	Materials were sent to 3 senior residences in the month of February. Books, CDs and a few DVDs were sent to Sheridan Villa and Constitution Place Retirement Residence to help celebrate Valentine's Day while Extendicare Mississauga reported that the materials celebrating Black History Month sparked great interest among the residents and were enjoyed by all .
Adults	
1	The Canadiana Reading Room is hosting a professional practicum from University of Toronto's iSchool for a future librarian who is organizing a major collection of primary sources from Karl Frank, landscape architect for the Meadowvale New Town project in the 1970s.
New Canadians	
1	On February 28, 2013, Rogers Cable 10 Daytime featured the Library's Citizenship program for newcomers. A senior librarian from the Sciences and Business Department was interviewed about how the program helps new Canadians prepare for citizenship from study guides to language testing to practice tests. Rogers learned about the program through our publicity and approached the Library with the request, showing that our marketing and publicity efforts are working.
Completing Our Neighbourhoods	
1	Sciences and Business staff have received numerous positive comments from class participants and their instructors on the new career tour format. A new pull-down screen and data projector are used to demonstrate our business and career databases to tour groups of up to 30 participants. Library staff and group leaders have noticed the tours are much more interactive. Participants are asking more questions and are more comfortable using the databases on their own.
Other (Special Initiatives)	
1	The Arts and History Department is currently hosting mandala artist Aloha Yvetta in a fascinating exhibition of intricate, finely detailed mandalas. The show will be on display until April 30.
2	The Arts and History Department is pleased to announce an upcoming donation of \$9000 from the

	Halton-Peel Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society which will fund the digitization of 30 reels of local community newspapers (1927-1969) for the library website. This donation will allow world-wide seamless access to these early, rich primary sources of local community life.
3	Children's Services staff were invited to the University of Toronto, Faculty of Information to do some practical training with a demonstration of the best storytelling and booktalking techniques for children and their families. Our amazing talented staff had the group of about 50 students, who have been focusing primarily on theory in their courses, spellbound and awestruck at the creativity that exists among Mississauga Library System staff. The facilitator reported: "Student feedback was tremendous. Inforum staff said it was the best attended and most fun iTea of the year."
4	The Central Library hosted 4 students from the Faculty of Information, University of Toronto on February 11. The students wanted to see collection development activities occurring in the Mississauga Library System and had an opportunity to meet with selectors, tour the Central Library and related areas such as Mail and Materials.
5	INFO LIBRARY, the online customer comment feature on the Library website allowing customers to send a general email message to the Library, received 276 enquiries in January, setting a new record of 8.9 messages per day. Two hundred thirty nine enquiries were received in February, a month with fewer days, for an average of 8.5 messages per day. Staff from the Sciences and Business Department do an excellent job of efficiently answering and expediting this enquiries. This service is now featured prominently on the main page of our website.