

REPORT TO THE LIBRARY BOARD

January 23, 2025

SUBJECT: Staff Activity & Community Impact Report
PURPOSE: For information
PREPARED BY: Senior Team
PRESENTED BY: Michael Ciccone – CEO and Chief Librarian

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended the Board receive the January 2025 *Staff Activity & Community Impact Report* for information purposes.

BACKGROUND

This document provides a mechanism for Senior Team to share information updates with the Board and is produced for each full meeting of the Board.

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

New Writer in Residence at Central Library

On January 13, we welcomed our new Writer-In-Residence, Saeed Teebi. Saeed is a writer and lawyer based in Toronto. His debut collection of short stories, *Her First Palestinian*, published in 2022, was a finalist for numerous awards, including the Atwood Gibson Writers' Trust Prize and the Rakuten Kobo Emerging Writer Award. Saeed will be splitting his time between Central Library and Western University, with office hours happening at both locations. As well, we'll be hosting a program with Saeed on March 3rd called "Immigrant Storytelling: How to Write from the Outside".

Presentations to YMCA Language Skills Program Class

Programs and Outreach Services staff presented to around 355 students in 20 classes at two YMCA locations. Staff spoke with students and teachers about library resources, spaces and programs. Students received new library cards and learned about The Labs and that the Library's website could be translated into several languages.

TechKnow

The Library is pleased to partner with Fanshawe Corporate Training Solutions to offer this 6-week program at branches throughout 2025. Starting at the Bryron and Pond Mills Branches, this program supports attendees in feeling more comfortable with using devices and teaches about online security, downloading apps, connecting with friends digitally, and using the Library's databases.

Winter Break Programming at the Central Children's Library

There was lots to do in the Children's Library over Winter Break! 100 people attended the Fireside Munsch program that featured a high energy one-man show, highlighting four different Robert Munsch stories.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

Family Literacy Day at the Central Library

January 25th from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

John Muirhead & The Pairs at the Wolf

January 25th, 8:00 – 10:30 pm

Bricks & Brews at Storm Stayed Brewery

January 28th, 6:00 – 8:00 pm

Nature in the City at the Wolf

- January 28th, 7:00 – 8:30 pm, Found an Animal
- February 4th, 7:00 – 8:30 pm, Exploring Environmental Law and Land Use Regulation
- February 11, 7:00 – 8:30 pm, Climate Action Superhero

Western Jazz Program at the Wolf

January 30th, 7:30 – 9:00 pm

Heritage Fair at the Central Library

February 15th, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Hidden History of Hamilton Road at the Crouch Library

February 20th, 7:00 – 8:30

Black History Month

- February 8, 10-1 pm, Family Celebration at the Central Library Commons
- February 22, 1:30-5pm, Black History Month Closing Celebration at the Wolf

MEDIA

"Astronomical' hold queues on year's top e-books frustrate readers, libraries" CBC News, December 20, 2024