

ANNUAL REPORT

FY2015

WOODLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY



FROM THE DIRECTOR

In 1910 the Woodland Public Library circulated 2,592 books, 711 (27%) of which were children's books. Last year, 105 years later, 130,291 (42% of circulation) children and teen books were checked out. Truly the Woodland Public Library has been "Growing Readers" since 1905. Our annual report this year is focused on the 42% of our annual circulation that belongs to children and teens. Our children and teen programs

are heavily supported by the Friends of the Woodland Public Library who volunteered 9,394 hours and gave over \$30,000 to library programs and building projects. Library staff concentrated their efforts this year in building a sense of community inside the library and outside the library. Library programs are not just to bring people into the library to check out books, but also to bring people together to engage with each

other and their community. In the words of Robert Putnam, "People may go to the library looking mainly for information, but they find each other there." Community building connections are made in our library every day. Whether it is new moms meeting at baby storytime or teens at our teen hangouts, the Woodland Public Library is a place for community. Better Together: Restoring the American Community (New York: Simon and Schuster, 2003), 49.

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President

Kathy Harryman

Vice President/ Secretary

Gloria Rodriguez

Diane Adams

Karen Shepard

Edgar Lampkin

MEASURE J

The passage of Measure J in June 2014 brought about huge changes to the library. The library is able to offer 50% more programming, and the doors are open an additional 7 hours a week.

The library has been able to add online homework help free to library patrons for students to get live 1-on-1 help in myriad subjects.

The Leake Center has reopened for public rental use. With increased program offerings, availability has been limited.

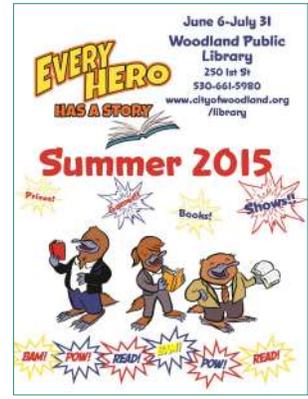
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

With the support of Measure J, the Woodland Public Library has been very involved in the community in the past year, participating in Food Truck Mania, First Friday Art Walks, the Farmer's Market, Cesar Chavez Day in Heritage Plaza, Dia de los Niños at Ferns Park, and several events with the Community Services Department (formerly Parks and Rec). At each event, children were invited to participate in a craft, and each child was given a free book to take home.

In the past year, the library increased program offerings by 50% and attendance at these programs increased 83%. Library staff made contact with all 24 third grade classes, 694 students, in the Woodland Joint Unified School District and issued 290 library cards to these students. These students have checked out 2940 items since receiving their cards.

LIGHTS!

The lights in the rotunda and the southeast corner of the library have been replaced with historically accurate fixtures. The soft, bright light replacing the fluorescent lights makes for a more welcoming and relaxed atmosphere, and the light in the rotunda has made a significant improvement in the appearance of the library entryway, which has been noticed by many patrons and visitors. The project was a collaboration between the Friends of the Library, the Yolo Co Historical Society, the WPL Rose Club, and the Library Board of Trustees with assistance from local historian David Wilkinson.



SUMMER READING - EVERY HERO HAS A STORY

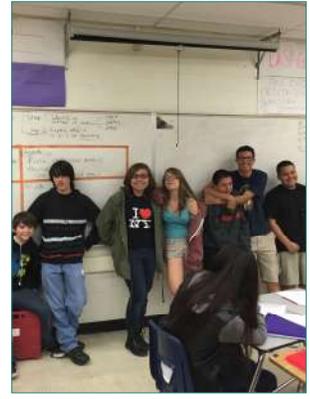
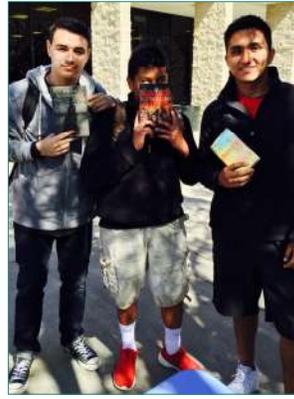
The Library's annual Summer Reading Program (SRP) was a great success this year extending one week longer than last year's program, engaging community members, and growing readers. More than 700 people attended the kickoff party to play games, eat, and register for the program. The event was enhanced by the 25 teen volunteers who made balloon animals, painted faces, and staffed the registration tables and bounce houses.

There was large increase from the program in 2014, with this summer seeing 830 more children registered, 200 more completing the program, 547 more participating, 4,600 more hours of reading, and 308 more books given out at the conclusion! In the teen program, 133 teens participated and were awarded 115 books of their own choosing. These teen participants contributed 424 volunteer hours to assist at the kickoff party and eight weekly events.

Throughout the SRP's three performance events and five participatory events with activity stations for children, 1,221 people attended to participate in hero-themed activities. Library staff worked with local organizations to recognize local heroes and even gave children the opportunity to give back to their community and be local heroes themselves. Some of these heroes were featured in a library exhibit with local heroes' pictures and bios.

STATISTICS

Circulation	FY 14/15	FY 13/14
Materials checked out or renewed	308,480	308,236
Patron Usage	FY 14/15	FY 13/14
Number of Library Visitors	179,433	173,961
New Cards (all ZIPs)	2,424	2,600
Juvenile Library Card Holders	8,528	8,347
Total Library Card Holders	27,579	28,581
Program Attendance	FY 14/15	FY 13/14
Storytimes (ages 0-5)	5425	5139
School Age/Family Programs	4453	4027
Tours/group visits (ages 6-12)	722	666
Outreach (ages 6-12)	6516	456
Outreach (ages 13-18)	1574	--
Programs (ages 13-18)	548	150
Adult Programming & Outreach	1439	856
Books for the Homebound Delivered	40	27



CHILDREN'S LIBRARIAN REPORT

Storytimes, a vital component of early literacy with age-appropriate stories, songs, and activities continued, continued to grow this year and are now being offered 7 times a week in English and in Spanish, for preschoolers, toddlers, and families, and daytime, evenings, and weekends. More than 5,400 children and caregivers attended storytimes over the course of the year.

As a result of ongoing outreach to local elementary schools, 383 library cards were issued, most of them to 3rd graders during class visits.

The Afterschool Program, three afternoons a week, continued in its second year offering children a chance to play board games, make crafts, and build with Legos. The programs for elementary-aged children drew more than 4,000 participants, twice as many as the previous year.

The library is happy to now have afternoon programs for children available four days a week.

In the spring library staff began working with volunteer UC Davis computer science students to pilot Scratch

programming classes targeted at 4th through 6th graders. The pilot class was a great success and led to adding these new computer-related programs into the library's programming lineup for fall of 2015.

Looking forward, the purchase of 12 computers for use in the new programming classes, starting in the fall of 2015, has opened the door for other programs. There will be two weekly programming classes taught by the UC Davis student volunteers. Each class will have 12 students, with one class offered exclusively for girls, and one for all children, both limited to those in 4th through 6th grade. A Monday Minecraft Club will give 24 students, aged 8-12, the opportunity to play the creative and innovative game Minecraft with each other in a structured, educational, and collaborative environment. The computers will also be used during the new Homework Help program, where teen and adult volunteers will assist children with homework two afternoons a week on a drop-in basis.

TEEN LIBRARIAN REPORT

The library's official teen-specific programming began in February when the new teen librarian, Rhea Fabricante, organized a Carnegie-to-Carnegie concert. The Woodland Pioneer High School Honor Band went to Carnegie Hall in March and gave an amazing preview show hosted by the Carnegie Library in Woodland. The wind moved the event indoors, but it was a smashing success nevertheless. Since then, Rhea has reached 1800 teens through weekly outreach to all the local high schools and middle schools, giving out free books, involving teens with crafts, doing book talks, visiting classrooms, and recruiting 25 teens for the library's Teen Advisory Board (TAB). Through special trainings co-facilitated by UC Davis's Early Academic Outreach team, TAB teens learned leadership, event planning, and teamwork skills to successfully organize and support library programs.

Within two months, TAB applied those skills by planning and promoting the Teen Summer Reading Program, "Unmask Your Inner Hero!" where teens created and completed Superhero Challenges and volunteered at

library children's events. The program ended with a splash and teens that finished the program were rewarded with the opportunity to dunk their Mayor, Tom Stallard, in a water dunk tank!

TAB also helped design and pick out furniture for the brand new teen space in the library. This bright and colorful section of the library features new desks, tables, and comfy chairs that are designated teen use only, ages 12-18, at all times. Teens are excited to have a nice, safe place to study and read in the library.

Over 100 Woodland teens have had the opportunity to participate in weekly library programming. The Secret Society of Teen Readers (S.S.T.R.) meets every Monday, hidden away in the upstairs mezzanine. Teens also meet up for Teen Hangouts every Tuesday and Thursday afternoons to play video games, board games, and even bake cupcakes in the Leake Room.

Rhea understands the positive influence librarians can have as role models to teens and takes that role very seriously. She continues to build relationships with teens and educators and has more programs planned for the fall.

FUTURE PLANS

LIBRARY GRANTS

Library Wellness and BIKEs

Library staff participated in an intensive 6 month grant-writing training from the California State Library with Yolo County Library staff. In the six one-day workshops, staff learned about branding, writing grants, creating sustainable projects, budgets, and more.

As a result of the training and a lot of hard work, WPL was awarded TWO State Library grants!

Titled “Commit2Fit: Wellness,” one will host weekly presentations on wellness from well-respected members of the medical community and fitness walks.

The other, in conjunction with the Yolo County Library, provides funding to purchase 2 custom book bikes to bring Books to Inspire Kids Everywhere (BIKE).



growing readers
WOODLAND
PUBLIC LIBRARY
250 First St. Woodland, CA 95695
www.cityofwoodland.org/library
530-661-5980

MAKERSPACE

Community Learning Lab

The empty space under the Children’s Room affectionately known as The Sculpture Garden is on its way to becoming a MakerSpace, or Community Learning Lab, that will house tools and workstations not available to most households. The community input process lasted several months to collect ideas and opinions through meetings, phone calls, and online and paper surveys. The architects and designers are working with that information to create a space custom tailored to our community’s needs and interests.



STORY GARDEN

Courtyard Community Garden

The beloved courtyard of the library has begun its transformation into a beautiful garden. The library is working with Yolo Farm to Fork to install a garden that will integrate with the new Very Ready Readers early literacy programming. An intern from UC Davis is working with library staff to design, install, and maintain a vegetable garden for kids to learn about healthy eating, plant biology, ecology, and sustainable agriculture.

Children will assist with the planting, watering, weeding, and harvesting after weekly storytimes and during afterschool programs. The teen volunteers are also getting involved with more of the heavy lifting to install and maintain the garden.

This pilot project with UC Davis and Yolo Farm to Fork will last one year, during which time they’ll create a sustainable plan to continue with the garden program

TECHNOLOGY

Growing Tech-Savvy Readers

Woodland Public Library continues its longstanding tradition of forward thinking technology adoption. After the city updated its webpage last year, the library purchased an upgraded subsite to enhance the online services for its patrons. Free online personal homework help, language learning, e-books, ESL lessons, job seeking assistance, and online encyclopedias are all available on the website now and are constantly being updated and improved. Teens also have access to information on the library’s new teen website. They are also active on the library’s Teen Pinterest page and Instagram account.

In the new year the library will offer Online Career High School through a grant from the State Library. Adults seeking a high school diploma will be able to apply for vocational training concurrent with a high school diploma.

A Minecraft club and coding classes have been added for the fall twice a week for kids 8-12 through a collaboration with the UC Davis Computer Science Department.