

Grace A Dow Memorial Library Board
Director's Report
August 13, 2009

Continuing Education

Ron Suszek, Supervisor of Adult Services, and Mary Schultz, Acquisitions and Circulation Services Coordinator, attended an informational meeting on the features that will be included with the automated system's new release.

Adult Services Activities

The library is co-sponsoring the Ann Arbor Film Festival Michigan Tour on Thursday, September 24th, 7 p.m. The program will feature short films. Other sponsors include: The Michigan Council for Art and Cultural Affairs, the National Endowment for the Arts and Matrix:Midland.

The Great Michigan Read author Bich Minh Nguyen is scheduled to speak about her memoir, Stealing Buddha's Dinner on Thursday, October 15th, 7:30 p.m., Library Auditorium. The author appearance is funded by the Michigan Humanities Council, Meijer and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

In collaboration with Central Michigan University Public Television and the Midland Rotary Club, the library will be showing the PBS American Experience Film, The Polio Crusade, followed by a Polio update by Rotary Zone 29 Polio Challenge Coordinator David Carpenter on Thursday, October 29th. This program is funded with grant money awarded to WCMU. October 24th is World Polio Day.

Youth Services Activities

The Touch-a-Truck Program attracted over 700 children, parents, grandparents and others. City staff from Public Services and the Fire Department brought over trucks and work vehicles for a hands-on experience for attendees.

Over 1150 hours were donated by 124 teens participating in the Volunteer Program. They ushered movies, distributed summer reading prizes, and assisted with special programs and events.

Children's story times start up the week of September 14th along with the Crafty Readers Program.

Other

The Friends of the Library have donated \$23,500 to fund special projects at the library. The projects that will be funded from this donation include: purchasing the online electronic resource Something About the Author: Facts and Pictures about Contemporary Authors and Illustrators of Books for Children, contracting for a design consultant to develop a plan for renovating the Library's Auditorium, purchasing equipment to provide digital signage in the Library's lobby for announcements and to promote library

programs, and purchasing laptops for children and teens to use in the Youth Services area of the library.

Library users who check out materials are eligible to receive a \$1.00 off admission coupon to the Alden B. Dow Museum of Science and Art Einstein exhibit that runs through December 6th. The library also has a display of Einstein books available for check out.

The Cup and Chaucer Coffee Bar will be celebrating its 5th Anniversary on Tuesday, September 22nd with a ribbon cutting at 11:15 a.m. Refreshments will be served. Free brewed coffee will be available from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

The library will be closed Monday, September 7, 2009 for the Labor Day holiday. Sunday hours will resume September 13th.