

## Youth Services Librarian Report Emily McCabe

### End of August

Bubble Party Attendance: 97 children, 96 adults

Ice Cream Party Attendance: 8 children, 8 adults

TOTAL 2023 Summer Reading Registrations: 72 (increase from 62 in 2022)

TOTAL 2023 Summer Reading Program Attendance (not including adults): 263 (increase from 127 in 2022)

The CPL 2023 Summer Reading program ended in a fantastically fun whirlwind. I'd like to thank everyone on staff who helped make this year's program successful! We received great feedback from the community over July and August on what they liked about the program and what can be improved upon in the future (ex: I was worried the raffle system might put some people off, but we got an overwhelmingly positive response and many caregivers complimented us and told us they went ahead and bought the same prizes themselves, just in case their children didn't win). The Bubble Party in particular had a massive attendance increase; in total we had 193 attendees, compared to the 50 total attendees in 2022. We may turn the Bubble Party into a more formal end-of-Summer Reading event in 2024, rather than just a performance.

We took a programming break at the end of August to clean up, recover, and work on school-year programming. We also attended the Back to School BBQ on Sunday the 27th and had a total of 59 visitors to our table.

### September

The YS department has been focusing on resuming regular programming (*Lego Club*, *Game Club*, and *Story Time!*). I met with Thomas McAlister to brainstorm programming and outreach, such as starting up classroom visits and potentially helping with an internship program. The Catskill Montessori School has reached out for a tentative partnership, and I also met with Kai Hillmann from the Youth Clubhouse to discuss programming. Bathsheba and I attended the MHLS-wide Summer Reading programming forum, which let us share our Summer Reading experience with other programmers.

Other than that, we've been focusing on prepping October, November, and December programming. We're also in the processing stages of our 'Library of Things' collection. Dawn, who has experience in working with a 'Library of Things', has been an amazing resource in figuring out lending logistics. The YS department has purchased Spanish-language picture books and YA high-low books using funding from the EDI grant.

### Upcoming

October: Aside from our regular programming, we're welcoming back Rick Stromoski for his *Let's Draw Monsters!* program. We're planning to restart *Fairy Tale Science Club*, rebranded as *Silly Scientists*. We're also planning a teen-specific program for TeenTober, and a small Halloween party for trick-or-treaters on Tuesday the 31st.

November: Continuing with the special programming, we'll be going into our third year of NaNoWriMo. We plan on holding our *Young Writers Program* again for the tweens/teens. For our elementary-aged patrons, we'll be continuing *Silly Scientists* and having three 'storytelling' programs to keep with the NaNoWriMo theme.