

Oshkosh Public Library Highlights April 2015

1. The library partnered with the Grand Opera House to offer a free performance preview of a show being offered at the theater. Actor Derek Evans presented his portrayal of President Teddy Roosevelt to an audience of 25 people under the Dome on April 6.
2. The creative minds of Oshkosh produced a variety of robots, spacecraft and intricately designed buildings for OPL's LEGOmania Design Contest. Inspired by the Oshkosh Public Museum's Art of the Brick exhibit, the contest was open to all ages and challenged participants to build an original LEGO design. Community judges for the event were Karla Szekeres from the Oshkosh Public Museum; Scott Dercks from House of Heroes Comics & Games; local artist Leif Larson and Mayor Burke Tower. There were 64 total entries - 46 children, 10 teens and eight adults. Prizes included LEGO books, tickets to Art of the Brick and gift certificates from House of Heroes. Winners and other entries are on display on the library's second floor through the end of April. A gallery of entries is also posted on the OPL web site and on the library's Facebook page.
3. The Children's & Family Outreach Department held activities throughout spring break week, including a Bingo Read & Feed (read to earn snacks and play BINGO); a chance to make 30-second book review videos; a special storytime performer; and a balloon-twisting session for Tweens Create.
4. Janice Dibble visited the book club at the Oshkosh Seniors Center to talk about the services that OPL is now offering to book clubs. About 25 people attended the meeting.
5. The library was once again the site for two exhibits of student art in March and April. Middle school entries in the Helen Farnsworth Mears Art Contest were displayed in the lower level during March, with 110 people attending a reception on March 22. The Artfest exhibit of art by elementary school students in the Oshkosh Area School District is currently on display and about 100 people attended a reception at the library on April 12.
6. OPL is sponsoring movies at the Time Theater and running Page2Screen Trivia Contests for films that were adapted from books. Participants can complete the trivia contest in the theater lobby the night of the film, on the library web site or at the library. Displays of related books, music and movies also are being featured on the library's 2nd floor.
7. In April, the library conducted staff training on handling difficult situations. More than a dozen sessions were held and a total of 56 employees completed the hour-long training session. Nearly half of the participants rated themselves more confident/skilled after going through the training. Sessions will be repeated every six months for new employees and those who feel they need a refresher.