

## Oshkosh Public Library Highlights February 2019

1. The library kicked off its World Culture Series for children and families with a celebration of Chinese New Year on Feb. 2 & 5. Sixty-six people attended and learned about Chinese culture, made lanterns, took the chopstick challenge and joined the Dragon Parade. Next up on March 14 & 16 is Ireland and St. Patrick's Day; on April 27 & 30 learn about Native American culture and Earth Day.
2. Life-sized Candyland drew a crowd of 146 people to play this larger-than-life version of the popular board game. Children practiced counting, colors and teamwork as their families moved around the life-sized board that spanned the area under the Dome. A sweet time was had by all!
3. OPL held its first-ever How-To-Festival on Feb. 16. Eighteen community members from all walks of life offered 15-minute talks on a wide variety of topics, such as fixing a flat bike tire, making sourdough bread, building mechanical keyboards, using the library's online catalog, making beer and maintaining a marvelous mustache.
4. The library partnered with Water City Racket Fest to offer a Listen & Learn program on Feb. 16 under the Dome. A diverse group of artists who were in Oshkosh to play at the weekend-long music festival talked about the instruments they play, brought audience members up to join them in making music and performed a few songs during the three-hour event. An estimated 55 people of all ages attended.
5. Library staff participated in our annual Staff Development Day on Feb. 15. Staff engagement was a major focus, with our main speaker from Verve, A Credit Union, highlighting the importance of understanding why we do the work that we do; what drives engagement and why high levels of engagement benefit both the organization and staff. Library staff also participated in breakout sessions focused on new developments at OPL, understanding our role in achieving strategic goals and being more aware of library services at all levels.
6. The Winnebago County Free Legal Assistance Clinic held on the third Tuesday of each month at OPL helped 226 people with simple legal questions, legal forms or referrals to attorneys who offer reduced-cost or unbundled services. Volunteer attorneys and students from the Paralegal Student Organization at Fox Valley Technical College staff the clinics. Monthly clinics are also held at Neenah and Menasha public libraries. A total of 684 people received free legal assistance at the three libraries in 2018.