

## Oshkosh Public Library Highlights June 2023

1. Summer Reading is off to a great start, with 348 adults, 249 teens and 762 children signed up as of June 19. At that point participants had read more than 334,000 minutes, earned more than 6,000 reading and activity badges and collected nearly 1,500 prizes. Supporting sponsors this summer include Cousins Subs, EAA Aviation Museum, Oshkosh Noon Kiwanis, The Paine, Wisconsin GLO and Wisconsin Timber Rattlers.
2. Two community sponsorships are helping to bring engaging events to the library. Oshkosh Noon Kiwanis is sponsoring a live animal program in July by Nature's Niche – Exotic and Native Animal Rescue for families. And Generac is sponsoring a concert by Sundae + Mr. Goessl, a jazzy vintage duo who will perform at the library on Aug. 19. We are thankful to our sponsors for their support of lifelong learning and enrichment!
3. One of OPL's lions is featured in the popular Greetings from Oshkosh mural that was recently painted on the side of The Roxy. The Downtown BID approached the library to include one of the iconic lions on the second "H" of the postcard-style mural and the library contributed \$1,000 in endowment funds to support the downtown art project. We are pleased to be included in this mural that reflects life and history in Oshkosh and look forward to seeing the majestic Harris in photos taken by residents and visitors.
4. Each year the Green Lake Festival of Music generously brings musicians to area libraries to present free concerts for library patrons. This year OPL was fortunate to have two concerts, one featuring the V3NTO Brass Trio and the Kaydenn String Quartet. A total of 50 people attended the concerts under the Dome.
5. The library is offering an Animanga Club for teens on Mondays during the summer. The group enjoys anime, manga, snacks and a shared interest in this popular form of Japanese animation.
6. Stay & Play Saturdays is an engaging way for families to start their weekend at the library. A different self-led activity, game or project is offered from 10 a.m. to noon for kids and their grownups to enjoy together. So far the fun has included an Elephant & Piggie Party, a CD case craft and an indoor bookwalk, with each session drawing from 20 to 30 people.
7. Forty kids participated in a LEGO Derby sponsored by Oshkosh Corporation on June 10 at the company's headquarters. Working alongside Oshkosh Corporation engineers, the kids designed Derby cars which they raced in hopes of winning a special 3D printed medal. Oshkosh Corporation has been a partner in OPL's LEGOMania Design Contest and will conduct special sessions of Wonderlab this summer focused on 3D printing.
8. The Mark Gruenwald Comic Book Creation Challenge came out of the gate strong this summer, with more than 200 people signed up for the Winnebago County Literacy Council contest since it

launched on May 6. As a contest sponsor, the library has helped to boost registration for the contest by promoting it and registering participants via OPL's community engagement activities and outreach. The contest encourages people of all ages to indulge their creative talents – as evidenced when Community Engagement Librarian Sandy Toland recently signed up a 71-year-old woman for the challenge.

9. OPL staff conducted outreach activities for students at 12 Oshkosh elementary and middle schools, including classroom visits, assemblies and family nights in May to promote the Summer Reading Challenge. Since the program started on June 1, staff have been registering readers of all ages at community events and sites where the library regularly conducts Community Engagement activities.
10. The library hosted 4K Family Day on May 23, partnering with Oshkosh Area School District early learning staff to offer early literacy activities, introduce families to library services and preview the Summer Reading Challenge. A total of 135 people attended two sessions of this lively event.
11. Local History Librarian Michael McArthur spoke to 60 members of the Elks Club on June 13 about the manufacturing history of Oshkosh. The presentation focused on businesses outside the lumber industry, including Oshkosh Trunk, Diamond Match Company, Oshkosh B'Gosh, and The Dunphy Boat company.
12. Oshkosh Public Library and Winnebago Area Literacy Council are partnering to bring literacy activities and the Summer Reading Challenge to the WALC Women and Children's group. Many of the 30 participants are refugees and/or English language learners. Moms take English classes while staff and volunteers work with the children. Thanks to OPL staff Morgan Dunn and Lindsay Reuer for their contributions to the program.